D00

stacre

H the rule one

Piers

Miny

Ner.

lixury

Claws are out in the gourmet pet food wars, P4 Leading article, P19



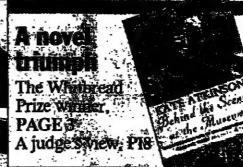
Monarch under the microscope

Andrew Roberts on Sarah Bradford's biography of the Queen, PAGE 35



Two for one flights Token, PAGE 6

PLUS win Virgin flights and vouchers with Accumulator PAGE 38



APPOINTMENTS 28 pages SECTION 3

Assembly plan angers nationalists

Major seeks elections for Ulster

BY NICHOLAS WATT AND NICHOLAS WOOD

JOHN MAJOR announced plans for early elections to a Northern Ireland assembly as a new road to peace yesterday after an international commission said the paramilitaries would never bow to his demand that they give up their guns before being admitted to ll-party talks.

But the move, which could lead to elections by May, was greeted angrily by national-ists, who fear that they will be left at the mercy of the Unionist majority in the province. John Hume of the SDLP accused the Prime Minister of buying Unionist votes to stay

The Unionists have made clear that they are prepared to sit down with Sinn Fein even if the IRA has not given up its weapons - provided all parties have faced democratic elections. And vesterday Mr Major embraced that idea with his plans for an elected body to produce the negotiators for the all-party talks.

Downing Street officials promised that political leaders n the province would be consulted quickly, leading to a summit with the Irish Prime Minister, John Bruton, by the middle of next month. In the Commons, Mr Major suggest-ed that the elections could be held in the spring, but his officials made clear later that a would not be brought forward unless it had broad support in freland. One senior aide said: "You cannot coerce people to the conference table. What the Prime Minister is prepared to do is give it his best shot."

The Mitchell commission's main conclusions and recom-

☐ No guns to be handed over ahead of all-party talks

Decommissioning to start in parallel with talks

☐ Weapons destruction to be monitored by independent commission and those surrendering guns to be granted □ All groups

People forced to leave Northern Ireland to be allowed to return. Relatives of missing victims to be given information about their whereabouts

□ Elections to a new body with an appropriate mandate to build confidence between the communities

The assembly idea was put forward after the three-man panel chaired by the former American Senator George Mitchell concluded that the Government's previous demand on the surrender of terrorist arms was unworkable. The commission said that the weapons should, instead, start once all-party talks

Senator Mitchell, who admitted that he had no magic formula for peace in Northern Ireland, said the gulf between the Government and Sinn Fein on the issue was unbridgeable and a compromise

was necessary to build confidence a step at a time. His report urged all parties

to commit themselves to six principles of democracy and non-violence, and suggested that "an elective process" could help to create the climate of trust needed to make

Mr Major later told the Commons that he still believed his demand for the surrender of arms was valid. but he accepted that an elected assembly was another way ahead. While he conceded that the nationalists had registered their concerns about the idea, he claimed there was wide spread cross-party support for it in the province, and he said: "In a democratic system like ours I cannot see how elections could be regarded by any of the parties as a side issue or as a block to progress.

We are ready to introduce legislation, and to seek both Houses' urgent approval for it, in order to allow an elective process to go ahead as soon as may be practicable."

Responding to Tony Blair Mr Major said that the elected body could provide a "pool of representatives" for the all-party talks, with the size of each party's delegation reflect-ing its success at the ballot box. The assembly could also act as a sounding board for the outcome of any all-par Conservatives and Unionists applauded the Prime Min-Continued on page 2, col 4

Report details, pages 8 and 9 Paul Bew, page 18 Leading article, page 19



Schoolboy joins England squad

PAUL SAMPSON, 18, was in for the England rugby union squad for the match against Wales in ten days time.

Three years ago the A-level student was too small to be likely to be heading for topflight rugby. But as a late

half not considered for national under-16 honours into a state of euphoric shock stocky 12-stone fullback, just ort of bit, ca downing bigger opponents during England's senior during England's senior schools win over Australia

eye on a player whose pace

go with the Yorkshire junior 100m and 200m titles.

for 100m made him 11th in the country in the under-20

schools win over Australia category.

last season.

Bath, Leicester and Wasps first XV at Woodhouse Grove are all reputedly keeping an School, near Bradford, of

gland's 30-man Five Nations be included in the team for the Wales match on February 3. Last night Sampson said "It hasn't sunk in yet. I just couldn't believe it."

England squad, page 44

Harman survives as Blair crushes revolt

BY PHILIP WEBSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

HARRIET HARMAN was safely entrenched in her Shadow Cabinet job last night after a fighting Commons attack against the Conservatives and a striking display of Tony Blair's mastery over his party. The Labour leader crushed

a party revolt against the Shadow Health Secretary by telling his MPs that he would not allow her to be "crucified" by the Tories over her choice of school for her son.

He imposed his will on a highly-charged meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party, declaring that he had no intention of yielding Ms Harman's "scalp" to the Conservative Party. His demand for unity lifted his party after the most difficult few days of his leadership and encouraged his MPs to put aside their differences with Ms

They turned up in force in the Commons to rally behind her as she laid into Tory health policies, and effectively and humorously put down Conservative MPs hoping to exploit Labour divisions over education.

It was clear that she had survived the double ordeal of an initially hostile PLP meeting and the Commons debate because Mr Blair, facing the most serious crisis since he took over the party, put his authority on the line as never before. Not for the first time the support he received from John Prescott, himself angry over Ms Harman's decision, was vital.

Ms Harman's apology to the PLP for any "succour" she en to the lune through her decision to send her son to a grammar school Continued on page 2, col 6

The adept survivor, page !! Philip Howard, page !8 Leading article, page !9

Forte moves to buy back hotels

Just one day after suffering takeover defeat at the hands of Granada, Sir Rocco Forte announced proposals to buy back the Forte Meridien, Exclusive and Heritage Hotels. He is also interested in the London hotels previously owned by Forte but now controlled by Granada, Details of the deal were discussed yesterday by Sir Rocco and Granada chief Gerry ____Page 23

Mortgage cut

The Bradford & Bingley Building Society has cut variable mortgage rates from 7.49 per cent to 7.24 per cent. Customers who use the society's direct telephone mortgage service will pay an even lower standard rate of 6.25 per ___Page 23

Internet Times

The Internet edition of The Times is now available on http://www.the-times.co.uk

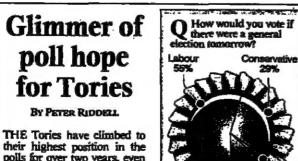


Glimmer of poll hope for Tories

BY PETER RIDDELL

their highest position in the poils for over two years, even before Labour's rows over the Harriet Harman have had time to affect public opinion.
The latest MORI poli for The Times, undertaken last weekend, puts the Tories on 29 per cent, up one point since early December and at the highest level since December 1993. But Labour retains a huge lead at 55 per cent, unchanged on the month.

The poll was undertaken between last Friday and this Monday, but a MORI analysis shows virtually no differ-ence in voting intentions between those questioned before and after the story broke on Saturday about Ms Harman's decision to send her son to a selective grammar school. The defection by



Emma Nicholson from the Tories to the Liberal Democrats in December appears to have had no lasting impact since support for the latter is unchanged at 13 per cent.

Barely 14 per cent are satis-fied with the way the Government is running the country with 76 per cent dissatisfied. interviewed 1,770 MORI adults at 135 ward sampling points between January 19 and 22.

Judge orders girl 'bride' to return from Turkey

SARAH COOK, the 13-yearold who with her parents' blessing "married" a Turkish waiter she met on a family holiday, was made a ward of court by a judge yesterday. Sir Stephen Brown, Presi-

dent of the Family Division of the High Court, ruled that she should be brought back from a remote corner of southeastern Turkey "forthwith", after a request from Essex County Council's social services

department.
The judge said Sarah would not again be allowed to leave the country without the permission of the court.

Jackie Cook, the girl's moth-

er, was en route last night for Kahramanmaras, where her daughter is being cared for by the parents of Musa Komeagac, the 18-year-old unem-ployed waiter she "married"

in a religious ceremony two weeks ago. Before she left the family home in Braintree, Esser, Mrs Cook said that; with hindsight, perhaps the "wedding" had been a mistake

better off in Britain. The judge directed the Official Solicitor and Essex County Council to investigate the circumstances surrounding the case and prepare reports before the matter was next brought before him on

Sarah's mother and father, Adrian Cook, were also effectively stopped from touting her story to the press. Only details of the affair already in the public domain may now be

Although the British court's ruling is not legally enforce-able in Turkey, the authorities there appear keen to bring the emberiassing affair to a speedy conclusion.

A Turkish court rejected an appeal last night for Komeagac to be released from jail. He is charged with holding a child against her will and having sex with a minor. A woman from Birm-

ingham claimed yesterday that Komeagac proposed to her 11-year-old daughter a month before he met Sarah. Mrs Coringe Haynes, from Kitt's Green, said the waiter approached Stacy in Alanya, where Sarah met him, during a holiday and said: "I want to marry her, I have lost my heart". Mrs Haynes, 35, said: There is no doubt that the man who married Sarah Cook is the same one who offered to

ABBEY NATIONAL £0 9.9% BARCLAYS LLOYDS 19.4% MIDLAND . 16.0% NAT WEST 18.9% iter a free transfer pack and video reall us free on: 0800 375 375

Prince bemoans lack of millennium spirit

By Alan Hamilton

THE Prince of Wales, in a stinging criticism of plans to celebrate the millennium, says today that the marking of the new century is in danger of becoming a giant but meaningless party with no spiritual significance. In an article in *Perspectives on*

Architecture, the magazine published in association with this Institute of Architecture, the Prince questions the The concept of renewal is not the

tions, doubts the value of the proposed "landmark projects" to be built across the country and calls for far greater involvement by all the faiths. "The deeper, more fundamental

aspects of the millennium are barely being considered. We need to think more deeply about what the millennium means," the Prince says. The message of the turning of the century secular nature of the planned celebra-monopoloy of Christianity, but is central to many of the great faiths. Everyone, whatever their culture or beliefs, can have a stake in the process which the milleunium represents." The millennium "provides a new

opportunity for people to work together with a common purpose. It provides the opportunity to execute works of art and to build significant public buildings which will be a genuine reflection of the deeper values of humanity." He bemoans the fact that most projects submitted to the Millennium

material. "No one has come forward with plans to erect a great religious building such as the new Hindu temple in Neasden (north London)." Religious leaders welcomed the Prince's stance. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said the celebrations should have a strong spiritual component because they

commemorated Christ's birth.

Millennium storm, page 14

THE RADIO	42, 43
The state of the s	22
WEATTER	
CROSSWORDS	22, 44
CECOSE	

LETTERS19 OBITUARIES21 PHILIP HOWARD18 COURT & SOCIAL 20 LAW REPORT

Rates may vary and are correct at time of going to press. Comparisons are based on interest bearing current accounts. Overdrafts are subject to alatus and are not available to persons under 18 years, Written quotations are available on request. APR of 9.9% is variable. All overdrafts are repayable on demand. Abbey National, the Umbrelle Couple symbol and The habit of a lifetime are trademarks of Abbey. National pic, Abbey, House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL, United Kingdom.

Blair receives education in vanity of pride

is that they start gloating before they've won. Premature triumphalism (the medical term is exultatio praecox) is common among politicians. It is thought to arise from wanting something so much that, when it comes within reach, self-control is lost. The odious spectacle ofiers enemies an unguarded flank. Triumphalism cheats the triumphant of their

A famous example occurred at the Sheffield rally, days before Labour were (as they believed) to win the 1992 election. There was much punching the air and arriving in helicopters. We'll be the judge of that," thought the Labour seemed on course to win that the voters resolved to knock them off it. Days before. in an excess of confidence, Shadow Chancellor John Smith had actually told them

he was going to put up taxes. Premature triumphalism has surfaced again more re-cently. With "new" Labour scoring a famous victory over Clause 4, and their party surging ahead in the polls, the Blairite modernisers begin to assume that the press will feed from their hands, that the public does not wish to know about gaps between preaching and practice, and that the "old" Parliamentary Labour Party can be herded around like sheep by Mr Blair's young



POLITICAL SKETCH

lads and Lassies. "Who cares," reason the modernisers. "where we send our children to school? Mind your own business." Mr Blair starts prefixing his answers to interviewers with a spoken "Look" and an unspoken "stimid" Pride. Last weekend came the fall. By Tuesday Blair was in serious trouble at Prime

Nobody, however, could call him faint-hearted: he has the opposite problem. On Wednesday he led an audacious fightback, knocking the sheep

Minister's Ouestions.

into line behind him. That afternoon Harriet Harman carried all before her in a triumphant Commons per-

Ah! That word again. Did Mr Blair, offering up a prayer of thanks for his deliverance, resolve to tread a little more carefully for a while? Did he heck! By yesterday morning, as he surveyed the "Blair crushes revolt" headlines, the Labour leader became super-

His fightback was now unstoppable. Spitting at adversi- Major could not believe his

ty, he would turn it into an advance. At PM's Questions he would actually choose Edu-education policy and alleged cation for his attack on the Tories.

By no means was this forced on him. The first question was from a Labour backbencher. Barry Sheerman. Thus the PM could be steered off schools (Sheerman chose the CBI) leaving Blair, when he rose, with a free choice of

If Blair had asked about cancer wards and Major had turned his reply to St Olave's school, the House would have felt demeaned, the PM wrongfooted. We would have groaned.

But Blair chose schools.

double standards could be used. Revelling in the cheers Major redoubled the attack,

more assured with every hit. This was John Major's best PM's Questions ever. Back-benchers rose to cheer. He left to a display of Order Papers fluttering like flags on a Tibet-an temple. Suddenly, the Tory vipers slither over themselves to patronise their leader. In his sourer moods, Mr Major

might echo Dr Johnson: "Is not a Patron, My Lord. one who looks with unconcern on a Man struggling for Life in the Water, and when he has reached ground encumbers him with Help?"

Prince wins few allies in millennium call

Church leaders advised the Prince of Wales yesterday against pursuing a millennium crusade to build more churches and mosques. They said that with congregations

falling there were enough empty pews. What was needed was a year of spiritual renewal.

Bishop Philip Pargeter, who represents the Roman Catholic Church on The National Millennium Commission, said: "We are mark to be a said: "We are mark sion, said: "We are much more concerned about looking after the needs of the poor than building a new cathedral. A spokesman for the Muslim Parliament of Great Britain said that their religion forbade them from accepting money raised by the National Lottery. The Millennium Commission insisted its proposals had a spiritual element.

Victims tested for drugs

Adults killed in road crashes will be tested for drugs from July because of fears that illegal abuse is one of the biggest single causes of serious traffic accidents. The three-year programme could lead to roadside police checks for drug abuse by early next century. Andrew Howard, AA head of road safety, said: "Drivers should remember any drug could have an adverse effect on driving ability."

Police pay £90,000

Clare Roberts, 31, a trainee solicitor, and two photographers. Malcolm Glover and Paul Demuth, both 40, were awarded more than £90,000 by police after alleging assault, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution following an incident when Mr Demuth emptied a finy amount of cannahis from a matchbox in Soho. The Metropolitan Police depicted liabelitate

Helicopter crash verdict

An RAF helicopter crash in which three teenage air cadets died was "a completely unforeseen and unanticipated event", a coroner said yesterday. Dewi Pritchard-Jones recorded verdicts of accidental death on the victims of the crash, in August 1993, after a two-day inquest at Llandudno, Gwynedd. He praised the resourcefulness of the surviving cadet, Sarah Coker, 19. The three crew also survived. .

Tarantula's lottery trick

As lottery fever sweeps Britain with a record double rollover jackpot exceeding E42.5 million expected this weekend, bizarre methods are being used to pick possible winning numbers. A lemur at London Zoo was given 49 numbered bananas to choose from, parrots have picked out numbered peanuts, and one man picked numbers by letting a tarantula crawi on his payslip.

Youth wins apology

Magistrates, lawyers and police have apologised to a teenager whose eight-month-old conviction for trespass was quashed when it was accepted that another youth had given his name and address. David Watson, 17, of Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, was convicted in his absence by North Shields Youth Court and fined £40 for trespassing on the Metro line. Police have promised an inquiry.

Jet took wrong path

A British Airways jumbo jet tried to land at an RAF base after mistaking it for an international airport three miles away, it emerged yesterday. The empty Boeing 747 was on a flight from Heathrow to BA's maintenance depot at Cardiff but took an incorrect path towards RAF St Athan. The incident came to light when the Air Accident Investigation Board confirmed that it had begun an inquiry.

Russian deal takes root

Gardeners will soon be able to buy seeds by mail order Botanic Gardens through a deal struck with a British gardening club. The National Plant Club, based in Taunton, Somerset, said the collection, founded in 1714 by Peter the Great, would provide seeds of care plants never before seen in the West.



By Nicholas Wood, Nicholas Watt and Michael Binyon

JOHN MAJOR took action yesterday to heal a serious rift in Anglo-Irish relations caused by his backing for an elected body in Northern

The Prime Minister wrote to John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, assuring him that he was not seeking to revive a Stormont-style assembly in which Unionists always had the whiphand.

The letter followed a warning from Mr Bruton against taking "unilateral action" and a claim by his deputy. Dick Spring, that Mr Major was going down a cul de sac. A senior Irish official accused Britain of throwing the Mitchell report "into the bin".

According to a ministerial source in Dublin, Mr Bruton had less than an hour's notice of Mr Major's challenge to Sinn Fein and the IRA on Wednesday to disarm or take part in elections. After two years of close co-operation between the two prime minis-

distanced themselves from

John Major's call for an

elected body in Northern Ire-

In remarks that raised a

question mark over the Oppo-

sition's staunchly bipartisan

approach, Marjorie Mowlam,

Secretary, highlighted nation-alist fears that the body might

herald a return to the days of

unionist domination. In the

Commons she told Sir Patrick

Mayhew, the Northern Ire-

land (Nicholas Wood writes).

ters, the unity of purpose that had driven the peace process was under threat.

Dublin was furious that Mr Major, without the customary consultation, appeared to be erecting a new precondition to Sinn Fein's participation in full political talks. The source accused him of damaging the

peace process. On BBC Radio, Mr Bruton'. complained that he had been told only in general terms about Mr Major's initiative. We cannot have any unilaternature," he said.

But Downing Street denied that Mr Major had tried to "bounce" Mr Bruton into sup-porting an elected body. Officials said that talk of a rift was "overblown" and that Mr Major had set out the main points of his Commons statement in a 35-minute telephone conversation with the Irish leader the night before.

In his letter yesterday, Mr Major told Mr Bruton that he

nouncement had generated a

"worrying air of distrust and a

She asked him to allay those

fears by making clear that

movement towards such a

body would go ahead only with the agreement of all

after John Hume, leader of the

mainly nationalist SDLP, held

a private meeting with Tony Blair to press his point that the

Mitchell report was the way

Labour highlights

nationalist fears

wanted to work with him in persuading all parties to hon-our the six principles on democracy and non-violence set out in the Mitchell report. He said that the sole purpose of his initiative was to get all parties around the table as a prelude to starting all-party talks on the future of Northern Ireland, with which decommissioning of terrorist weapons could run in parallel. Mr Major and Sir Patrick

Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, sought to calm the dispute by emphasising that Britain was not trying to impose a solution on the conflicting parties in Northern Ireland. They pointed to two roads to peace - agreement by Sinn Fein that the IRA would scrap some of its weapons before all-party talks, or early elections to a body that would supply the negotiators for all-party talks without prior decommissioning. They denied that Britain had rejected the Mitchell report, which has proposed a compromise formula in which all-party

talks and decommissioning

run in parallel..

Dublin was angry because it believed that the Mitchell report's recommendation that political parties in Northern Ireland should renounce violence would bolster the peace process. Sources said that although the Mitchell recommendations presented a challenge to Sinn Fein, the party might eventually accept them. Mr Major's plans for an make it difficult to sell the Mitchell report to Sinn Fein because the party could rightly claim that it was worthless.

Leading article, page 17



Lionel Warne, head teacher of White Hart Lane, outside the school yesterday

Grant children's school upset at MP's criticism

BY STAFF REPORTERS

CRITICISM of his children's inner city comprehensive education by the Labour MP Bernie Grant drew an angry reaction from teachers at their school yesterday. Lionel Warne, head teacher, said the Tottenham MP had apologised for suggesting the school had failed his three sons. White Hart Lane School, in

Mr Grant's north London constitutency, has the ninth worst academic record in the country, with 37 per cent of 16year-olds failing to obtain a single GCSE last year.

Mr Grant is said to have told a parliamentary party meeting on Wednesday mornhis children to a local school. He criticised the standards of education in his constituency and across London, claiming

it was a "disgrace." Sharon Lawrence, his part-



Grant: was said to be 'talking generally"

day denied reports that he had considered sending the boys to involved the children in politics and he's certainly not going to now," she said.
"He was talking generally

about inner city comprehensives and some of the serious

particularly targeting that school. He certainly does not believe in private education. He would never have sent his children to a private school." Mr Grant's 18-year-old son, Jimmy, passed half a dozen GCSEs and is studying three A levels at White Hart Lane, with the help of two hours' private tuition a week at £20 an hour. Steven, 20, is unemployed,

problems that they have. What he was not doing was

having attended a design course. Jimmy's twin brother Alex is studying catering at

Southgate College. Mr Warne, 53, head teacher for 13 years, said the 83 staff members sent him a letter of meeting at the school. "I think they are hurt and I think they are quite angry. They do not understand why he should have attacked us or them, or the school."



@ Call into any Going Places shop,

Low Deposit only £5 per person

₽ Up to 30% additional discount available*

With offers like these shouldn't you be Going Places.

over 700 nationwide or call

Divorcé

Continued from page I religious faith. The judgment, published by the court, states that Mr David, who belongs to a Sephardi synagogue in northwest London, was summoned to the federation three times at his former wife's request. He refused.

After the final summons in March 1995 he was given a warning that if he persisted in his refusal to comply with the courts, he would be formally placed in contempt, or nidui. Mrs David was authorised to publicise the punishment and seek the assistance of the civil

Mrs David, a buyer for a medical equipment company, said: "As far as I am concerned my divorce in the civil courts means nothing to me. 1 was married through a religious ceremony and the only ay i can get out is through my

religion."
The case is highlighted in the Jewish Chronicle today. Dayan Berei Berkovits, of the Federation, said that ostracism is the equivalent to contempt in a civil court. He said: "We have no means of enforcing this but religious lews would tend to respect it. It is a very unusual step to take. It will go on until he

purges his contempt."

Last year, Jewish women chained themselves to the offices of the Chief Rabbi as a protest against being trapped in marriages that the civil divorce courts have already declared are over.

Dr Julian Shindler, director of marriage authorisation in the Chief Rabbi's office, said: The Chief Rabbi feels very strongly there are certain situations we cannot do very. much about. At the very least we can show, at the communal level, our support for a woman who may be trapped in this

Mr David was unavailable

Business backing for Blair vision

THE Confederation of British Industry and two of Britain's their backing to Labour's idea of a "stakeholder" economy. Adair Turner, CBI directorgeneral, said yesterday it was

vital to ensure that a return to

rising real incomes did not lead to a pay-price spiral. Rewards had to be linked to productivity and performance. "It may sound like a statement of the blindingly obvious or some kind of mythical Utopia. But we must develop a framework giving employees opportunities, prospects and

participation in the economy's

success; dare I say, a stakeholding," Mr Turner said. Sir Michael Perry, chairman of Unilever, says the group has developed the practice of giving employees having a stake in their companies over many years. In an article in The Times today. Sir Michael says he has no intention of "wandering far into the preelection minefield of controversial social idea" but he points out that "stakeholding"

had a well-defined meaning in

business theory. Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays plc. welcomed Mr Blair's recognition of the importance of shareholding. Mr Taylor emphasised that a large proportion of the bank's employees already had a stake in the company. "I think the interesting thing about what Blair is saying is that he is accepting the enormous importance of shareholders."

Now homeowners can borrow up to £15,000 by phone and receive a cheque in days

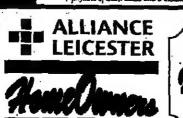
Now there is a simple, straightforward way to borrow up to £15,000, whether it be to improve your home or make a dream come true. With the new Alliance & Leicester Homeowners Loan there are no administration costs or survey fees

and with our attractive low interest rates this really is the affordable way to borrow a larger sum. Moreover there are no interviews and you can normally have an 'in principle' decision over the phone in minutes. Phone us today!

BORROW FROM £5,000 - £15,000 AND REPAY OVER 5 - 10 YEARS. INTEREST RATE FROM 11.75% APR (VARIABLE) AMOUNT 120 MONTHS 96 MONTHS 60 MONTHS £15,000 11.75 327.34 £13,000 11.75 180.26 205.34 283.70 £11,000 12.25 155.36 176.44 242.54 £9,000 12.25 127.11 144.36 198.44

£5,000 12.75 81,43 Typical example: If you borrow £12,000 over 60 wonths you pay £3,712.20 interest, giving a total awa payable of £15,712.20 and a wonthly payment of £261.87 (at 11.75% APR variable).

100.67



12.75

£7,000

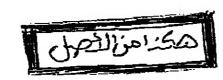
One simple phone call is normally all you need for a fast decision

155.93

114.00

Quoting Ref 3N07

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. We report this offer is currently not available in Scotland and Northern Ireland Your home is necessity for the Inan. Loans are subject to status and are one available to people aged 13 or over. Western quotations available on request. The right to decline any applicant is reserved. Full details available from, an credit facilities are provided by, Allasoce and Leicester Personal Finance Limited, Heritage House, 61 Southpanes, Leorence, LEI SRR.
Registered in England No.2486611. A wholly owned subsidiary of Alliance & Leicester Building Southpane.





Atkinson: no strong feelings and no hobbies except TV

THE surprise winner of the Whitbread Book of the Year award, Kate Atkinson, won the support of eight of the nine judges for her first novel, Behind the Scenes at the Museum. it emerged

Ms Atkinson, 44, who is twicedivorced with a daughter from from each marriage, has been turned from a struggling writer into a literary star by the £21,000 award. She said: "I didn't sleep last night. I kept tossing and turning, thinking 'My goodness me'. It's a bit tuneral."

The chronicle of working-class

despite strong competition from Salman Rushdie's acclaimed The Moor's Last Sigh and Roy Jen-kins's much-praised biography of Gladstone. Rachel Cusk, the novelist, was among judges who cham-pioned Ms Atkinson's cause. She said: "It is a great book, already

Word is getting out."

Another judge, Jane Asher, the actress, felt it was "remarkably good and beautifully written", and Candia McWilliam, the writer, said it made her laugh and cry. Only Julian Critchley, the writer and Tory MP, was convinced that Jenkins should take the prize. He said that he had "struggled grim-

number five in the bestseller list.

ly" with Ms Atkinson's book but "it wasn't my cup of tea".

The winner insisted that only certain passages of the book were from her own life. A medical and surgical shop was just like one that her parents used to run.

As far as she knows, there are no writers in her family. Her father, like generations before him, had previously worked down the mines around Doncaster.

Ms Atkinson said that she does not feel strongly about anything, so relatively little about herself emerges in either the plot or the characters. "Perhaps I'm beyond strong feelings, she said. Her evenings are spent at home in the "less fashionable" part of Edinburgh, watching television. She describes herself as a loner who needs her space and is probably difficult to live with. "I've given up on hobbies. Now I do nothing. I lead a really horing life."

She noted that the press cover-age of her win failed to paint an entirely accurate picture, with a little artistic licence they described her as a former chambermaid. However much that enhanced the fairy-tale's happy ending, it was no more than a student jub between school and university.

Although her parents gave her a happy childhood in York, she was an "an unhappy child", an only child. "I'm just not a cheerful

cheerful as I've gone on. Some children are."

They were a close family, yet she does not believe the experience of two divorces has influenced her disillusionment with the family as a vital unit in society. "The family is overrated. We hear so much about the family, especially from the Government, as something that will save society. It argues that the family is the moral centre to our lives. But families are not in

themselves natural. "We were meant to be part of much larger units. Families can destroy the sense of community. Most have failed marriages. More

children do not suffer with only one parent: "I brought up two happy, well-adjusted children who haven't needed two parents." Her eldest daughter is 21, a student deciding on her career path; the youngest is 15.

After graduating from Dundee University herself in 1974, uncer-tain of her career path, she was employed as a home help as a teacher in community education. and as a writer of short stories for women's magazines. Her writing career took off in 1988 when she won a Woman's Own short story competition.

Rachel Cusk, page 18

Kit to test children for drugs attacked

BY ADRIAN LEE

A MAIL-ORDER swab which allows parents to test if their children are using drugs came under attack when it was launched yesterday.
The marketers of the £32

Drug Alert product, which detects traces of all well-known drugs, denied trying to profit from recent tragedies. Advertising posters will show a dealer standing at the gates

The parents of Leah Betts. the teenager who died after taking Ecstasy, said the kit should be "used with caution".

The 3 in square swab can be wiped across clothes, furniture, telephones or a child's hands and sent to a laboratory for analysis. Parents are given a confidential report which, if positive, includes advice and telephone numbers for help

Ken Lodge, managing direc-tor of Drug Alert at Chigwell, Essex, said: This is not spying. The kit can be used covertly, in bedrooms or on storage units, but also with the agreement of the

Leah Betts' stepmother Janet, of Latchingdon, Essex. said: "I think it should only be used as a last resort but there is a danger it could become a substitute for a rapport between parents and children.

"I asked my 19-year-old daughter Cindy how she would react and she went loopy. It's a bit like reading vour kid's diary."

Saily Taylorson, adviser on drugs in schools for the counselling organisation Release. dismissed the kits as "ludicrous" and of limited use. There are a million and one drug organisations in the phone book which will give any parent the advice and help

they need," she said. The kit, which originated in the United States, could also be used in the workplace. according to the marketers.

Fair trial impossible because of 12-year gap since alleged incidents

Judge frees music teacher accused of sex with boys

By JOANNA BALE

A MUSIC teacher accused of iving sexual favours to under-age boys walked free from court yesterday after a judge accepted that although there was a clear case against her it would be unfair to

Valerie Short, 41, was alleged to have taken part in one-to-one and group sexual encounters with boys aged 13 to 15 from a London youth orchestra that she helped to run. They took place when the orchestra was on tour, after music lessons at her house and even at one boy's home while his parents were in. it was alleged.

This teacher made herself available to boys. It was widely known among the youngsters she mixed with." Miranda Moore, for the prosecution, told Woolwich Court, southeast London.

But after two days of legal argument Judge Brian Pryor said it would be unfair to proceed with a trial because the alleged incidents took place between 10 and 12 years ago. He accepted the defence's argument that Miss Short would not receive a fair trial because of the difficulties in tracing witnesses dence that would back her

denial of the allegations. The judge said that it was boys who made the allegations had suffered psychological problems as a result of sexual activity "which they had clearly enjoyed". He was also critical of the fact that the allegations were made only after the main complainant, Mr G, attended a two-day child abuse workshop while studying clinical psychology at Oxford and decided that he should speak out, allegedly to protect others.

Judge Pryor commented: "His reasons are certainly understandable but it isn't something one would have thought that he couldn't have realised for himself long

Miss Short, of Blackheath, southeast London, denied five counts of indecent assault against the boys. Pending trial she was suspended from her post as music teacher at the John Roan School, Blackheath, which she joined after the alleged incidents were said to have taken place.

In a statement read out in court one alleged victim. Mr D, described an assault which took place after a violin lesson at Miss Short's flat. "After the lesson Val went into her bedroom and watched television. I came in and lay next to her on the bed and I started fondling her. She didn't make any effort to undress me but she put her hands down my trousers."

Afterwards she allegedly told Mr D: "You are a naughty

The same man alleged that on another occasion he became involved in a group sex session with Miss Short and other boys. Mr D later said: "I did it because I wanted to. I

took advantage of her." Ms Moore explained that although some of the boys admitted to having enjoyed their experiences, it was still an offence for a woman to indulge in sexual activity with boys under 16. She said shame, guilt and embarrassment explained why it had taken until last year for a victim to contact police, adding: "He became aware of how child abuse affects not only the victim but the abuser and, bearing in mind the position the lady was in. something

had to be done." Judge Pryor said witness statements suggested that when boys reached the age of 15 she lost interest in them and turned her attention to others of a younger age. "The picture that emerges is of a practice that went on over many years." he said.

None of the witnesses was called to give evidence or face cross-examination. According to written statements another alleged incident took place at the home of a pupil, Mr C. during the latter stages of a Christmas drinks party in 1983, while his parents were in the house. One witness. Mr L described how Miss Short took off her underwear and let several boys touch her inti-

Other incidents were said to have taken place during an orchestra trip to France. Mr D said in a statement to police: "I remember Val was wearing some outrageously provoca tive clothes including short knowledge within the orchestra that Val was interested in

Louis French. for the defence, said other adults connected with the orchestra. including the conductor and head of the music department. told police that they were aware of gossip surrounding Miss Short, but never saw any



Valerie Short, whose future with her school was under discussion yesterday

improper behaviour. The head of department had been annoyed by it, he said.

Judge Pryor commented: "I am surprised that head of department's annovance didn't materialise into anything." After the case was dismissed

Miss Short, in a statement read by her solicitor, Juyce Hitchman, said: "Miss Short has lived with the embarrassment and distress of these allegations for almost a year. She has always denied them emphatically. She now wishes to be allowed to return to

normal life." Greenwich Education Authority was last night consid-

ering Miss Short's situation at the school. Greenwich Council said: "We set up a telephone helpline to find out more about what Miss Short might have been doing. We did get one call from a parent of a pupil who is still at the school, but they did not want to

Husband 'poisoned by dying bigamist'

A DYING woman murdered the wealthy businessman she had bigamously married by poisoning his food with a lethal mixture of her own drugs, a court was told

yesterday. Lynn Lowey, 39, a cancer sufferer with between three and nine months to live, is accused of murdering lan Whalley 56, her third husband, by poisoning a meal of jacket potatoes. As her husband's body lay undetected at their home. Mrs Lowey laughed to a relative: "No

more lun - now I am free."

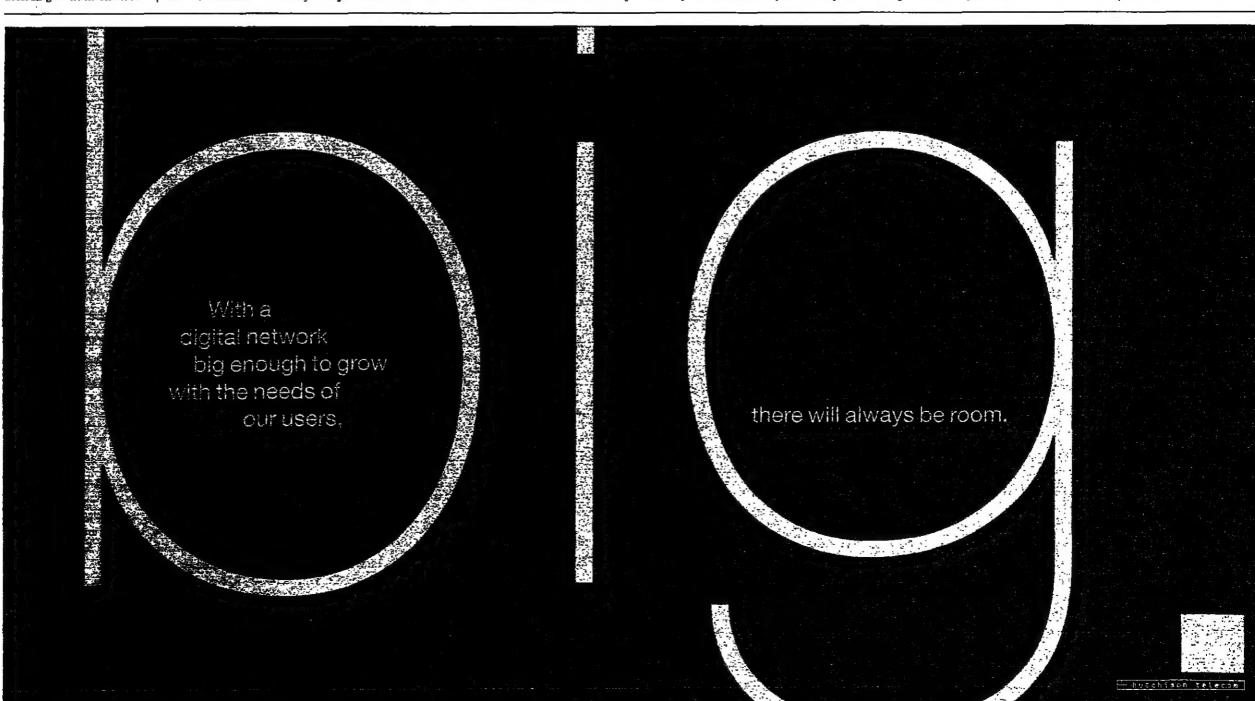
Mrs Lowey, of St Helens,
Merseyside, made a second appearance yesterday before Huyton magistrates accused of her husband's murder.

She also faces two charges of maticiously administering prescription drugs as a poison to Mr Whalley, a landscape gardener, on October 25 and November 6, 1994, and one of bigamously marrying him in Gibraltar on April 7, 1944. while married to John Lowey. her second husband and the father of her two children.

Their "stormy" relationship began five years ago, three years after Mr Whalley's wife died of cancer. Mr Whalley was found dead in the mobile home the couple shared on January S this year. Paul Becker, for the prosecution. said that there was enough temazepam in Mr Whalley's blood to make him drowsy and enough morphine to kill prescribed to Mrs Lowey, who was treated for cancer of the cervix in 1992. The cancer has since spread to her lungs.

Mr Becker said: frequently said she wished Mr Whalley dead and would kill him if she could get away with it. She would not leave him because she didn't want to lose her right to the money."

The case was adjourned for



Available from Dixons, Carphone Warehouse, The Link, Tandy, Currys, Comet, John Lewis Partnership, Granada, Radio Rentals, Tempo, Norweb. Hutchison Telecom Retail. Escom and other leading high street and independent stockists nationwide. Call 0800 80 10 80 for full details.

Pets tuck in as store wars turn into a dog's dinner

By CAROL MIDGLEY

DESIGNER pet foods for the "less active" cut and the "more mature" dog were launched by Sainsbury's yesterday, in dely American-based specialist manufacturers who have refused to supply the main supermarket chains.

Britain's growing demand for gournet and specialist pet foods has become such an important area of the market that Tesco is considering complaining to the Office of Fair Trading to allege restrictive practices by manufacturers who prefer to supply small

ies. John Gildersleeve, a Tesco director, said: "We can only assume they want to maintain unnecessarily high prices."

Sainshury's said: "There is only one subject more emotive than pet food and that is baby food." The conflict is the latest turn in the nation's seemingly limitless budget for dining pets. Owners spend about £1.3 billion each year

John Ramsden, a director for

un pet food. Luxury and specialist varieties account for about £750 million. Apart from "superpremium" and "vitamin enriched"

meats available at most supermarkets, discerning cats and dogs can have salmon and chive (with jelly). liver sausage, tuna mousse, canned pates and sugar-free yoghurt drops. There are balanced diets for pregnant bitches, cheese-flavoured crunchies as snacks between meals, and vegetarian food for

Sainsbury's new Select Diet range of 11 products claims to be scientifically formulated to cater for animals at different stages of their lives, with a growth formula for puppies, older dog formula with "moderately decreased calories to avoid obesity", and a highenergy food for working dogs. Mr Ramsden said: "Our customers clearly wanted this kind of product; there was a problem with supply. so instead of bleating about it we have come up with our own."

Among the independent companies refusing to supply supermarkets are Hill's pet food products. Eukanuba (Leanders) and lams. A spokeswoman for Hill's said yesterday: "We have no comment at all."

Pet food has come a long way since the turn of the century, when James Spratt arrived in London. spotted puppies eating ship's biscuits on the quayside and invented dog biscuits. Four years ago, the world's first fast-food restaurant

for dogs opened in Toledo. Ohio. Prices for some pet foods can reach human proportions. A tin of vegetarian dog food is 42p, against 28p for a tin of baked beans. Cat's milk with extra vitamins and reduced lactel is 45p for 250mls, against about 35p for a pint drunk by humans. Sugar-free chocolate drops and yoghurt drops for dogs are £1.37 for 250g, against £1.50 for the same weight of chocolate buttons for humans. John

Shankey, spokesman for Pets at Home, a Cheshire-based wholesaler and distributor which operates 16 pet superstores in Britain, said: People see their pets as part of the family but something as a poor relation because they cannot speak for themselves.

By giving them luxury foods or a healthy diet that they might eat themselves, they feel they are including them in the family unit. In supermarkets people spend more time choosing pet food than any other product."

Leading article, page 19

Computer forecasts of global warming 'proved right' as area the size of Norfolk vanishes

Wrinkles caused by minutes in the sun

By NIGEL HAWKEN SCIENCE EDITOR

JUST two minutes in the sun is enough to start the production of wrinkle-producing chemicals in the skin. Ameri-can scientists report today.

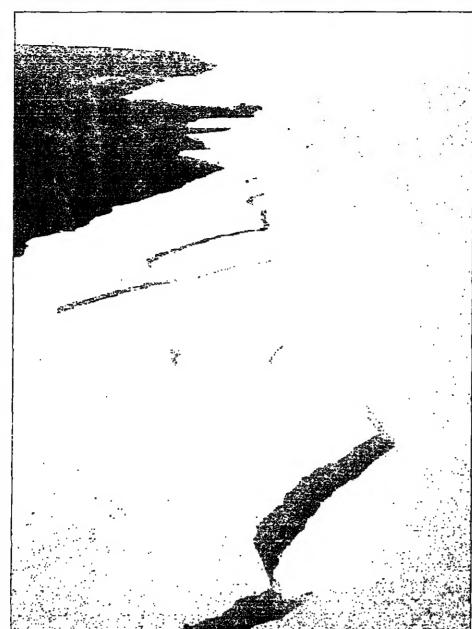
Long before the skin has even reddened, enzymes called metalloproteinases are produced and begin degrading the components of the skin that keep it looking plump and youthful.

The discovery could open up ways of preventing sun damage to the skin, by block-

ing the activity of the enzymes, the scientists report in Nature. Dr Gary Fisher and colleagues at the University of Michigan Medical School exposed light-skinned volunteers to ultraviolet light from a sunlamp. To guarantee the skin they used was as undamaged as possible, they used the buttocks.

Within minutes of sun exposure. they found. chemicals known as transcription factors, which stimulate metalloproteinase genes. flew into action. Huge amounts were produced in the first day or so.

The scientists say that retinoic acid, a derivative of vitamin A used to treat skin conditions from acne to wrinkles, prevents the production of metalloproteinases when rubbed on the skin.



Scores of ice shelves are at risk of disintegrating if temperatures continue to increase

HI DI H

Temperature rise melts away huge Antarctic ice sheets

ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

ICE sheets in Antarctica are disappearing at an alarming rate as rising temperatures appear to confirm fears of global warming.

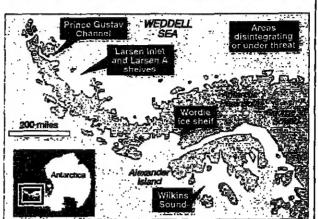
Researchers at the British Antarctic Survey studying the continent's peninsula found after analysing maps and satellite images that five out of nine sheets have disintegrated in the past five decades. In total about 8,500 square kilometres have vanished, an area the size of Norfolk.

At the same time temperatures have risen by 25C. broadly in line with super-computer forecasts of global warming in the region, caused by man's pollution. The scientists claim scores of other ice shelves will be at risk if temperatures continue to rise.

David Vaughan, a glaciologist at the survey, said yester-day that the retreat of the ice shelves might be part of a natural cycle. But he added: "It might also be a first-class indicator of global warming ... something significant is clearly happening here."

A spokesman said only a few scientists were working on the area and that parts of ice shelves had in some cases disappeared almost overnight, making it hard to notice at the time. The findings, published today in Nature, are based on studies of ice shelves on the pertinsula, which stretches southwest from the main land mass. Last February researchers at the survey announced in The Times that a giant iceberg had broken free from a disintegrating part of the Larsen ice

The findings show the retreat of the ice is far more widespread and heading to-



wards some of the continent's bigger shelves such as the Ross and Ronne. Since the 1950s, the Prince Gustav channel ice shelf has disappeared. as have the Larsen inlet and Larsen A on the eastern side. The scientists believe the Larsen B shelf is now

threatened. On the western side the Wordie ice shelf has disinte-grated and the Muller ice shelf is disintegrating. The Wilkins ice shelf in Alexander Island just off the peninsula is now

also threatened. The studies suggest there is an average annual tempera-ture of -5C above which ice shelves, projections of sea ice fed by glaciers on the land, cannot survive. A further IC rise is likely to trigger more disintegration of the Larsen ice shelf and could begin affecting the George VI shelf

Mr Vaughan said they believed they were close to understanding why ice shelves suddenly collapse as temperatures rise.

The team believe the melted water percolates through weak spots in the ice, transferring heat deep into the frozen shelf. Here it causes cracks

and fissures that accelerate the process. Melting water on the surface might also decrease the reflectivity of the ice. allowing more heat to be absorbed

A further disintegration of the ice sheets could lead to more icebergs in the southern seas, increasing threats to

But penguins, seals and other wildlife could benefit. They tend to thrive on rocky areas more of which would be exposed.

Some scientists have pre dicted that as Antarctica melts sea levels will rise. But Mr Vaughan said that for a significant impact on sea lev-els, the Ross and Ronne shelves further south would have to go. They are fed by huge ice sheets which, running off the land, would increase the volumes of the

But this would require a further rise of 10C which, at current rates or warming. would take 200 years.

Mr Vaughan said by that time the world would be in such turmoil that sea levels would be far less important than the ability of man to feed

SPENSIVERIES Rapist was trapped by discarded shopping

A man who raped a teenage girl at a recreation ground was caught when he left a cucumber bearing a sticker at the scene. Police traced the shop from which it was bought and seized a video film showing the rapist at the shop a short time before the assault

At Winchester Crown Court yesterday Ricki Webster. 22. formerly of Calmore, Hamp shire, admitted raping the 17-year-old last October. The case was adjourned for reports.

Body sent home

The body of Johanne Masheder, 23, from Winde, Cheshire, found at a Thailand temple last month, has been flown home after an autopsy determined that she died from a blow to the head. A Buddhist monk has been arrested.

Absent winners

Lottery prizes worth £20 million are waiting to be claimed, including £94,000 for a ticket bought in Oldham last August whose owner has just two weeks left to act. After 180 days, the money plus interest goes to good causes.

IVF discovery

Scientists at University College London have identified the protein in sperm that triggers the transformation of a fertilised egg into an embryo. They believe the discovery may improve the rate of in-vitro

Killer on run

A murderer is on the run after being allowed to leave an open prison for an unescorted shopping trip. Alan Hirst. 40, who killed a clergyman, was 15 years into a life sentence at Sudbury, Derbyshire. He may have headed for London.

Appeal total

The Times Christmas Appeal raised £100,535 for the Royal Marsden Hospital children's cancer unit. A hospital spokes-man said: "We are immensely grateful to all the Times readers who have contributed so generously.

CORRECTIONS

☐ Mr Ibrahim Hewitt is the development officer of the Association of Muslim Schools of the United Kingdom and Eire (report, January

☐ KPMG, the accountancy firm (article, January 17), was founded in 1867; Sir William Barclay Peat joined the partnership in 1870.

☐ Today is the 200th anniversary of Robert Burns's death. not his birth as stated in an article yesterday.

SOCIETIES ...tax-free savings

from £10 a month



Friendly societies give you and your family a unique opportunity for

And now the Government has raised the amount you can save. You can start a 10 year plan with Homeowners Friendly Society from just £10 a month but if you want to maximise your tax-free

savings, you can save up to £25 a month.

So if you wish to benefit from the investment expertise of one of the UK's top friendly societies and take advantage of your increased tax-free savings allowance, call Homeowners now FREE on 0800 210 276 or return the coupon, no stamp needed. You'll receive a FREE Sheaffer Pen along with your Action pack.

FREE Sheaffer Pen Yours just for finding out more!

PHONE FREE OR POST THE COUPON TODAY. NO STAMP NEEDED

PHONE NOW

0800 210 270 PLEASE QUOTE

The Government Built, the amount each individual can save tax-free with a triendly society. But ever one is year homebold, including your children, can have a friendly society sus-free savings plan. So we can send you getters appropriate to your discussioners, please complete the following:

Damme T.J. No.

The factor many for a discharge agree of brings in No, of adults in your household ... No, of children under 10 years in the first configuration of additional after the comparation operation, expected the additional beautiful and and a second-freeze among the major of present earliering in the innormalistic please and absorber. Co

HOMEOWNERS FRIENDLY SOCIETY LIMITED

Post to: Homeowners Friendly Society Limited, FREEPOST, Moorfield Road, Yeadon, Leeds 1.819 TVY Please remember that the value of your investment can fall as well as rise and you may not get back all you invest.

Driving test chief to forgo his bonus

BY JONATHAN PRINN TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE head of the Driving Standards Agency will not be paid his £4,000 performance bonus this year because of a sharp rise in waiting times for driving tests.

In a written Commons answer Steve Norris, the Transport Minister, said that the salary paid to Bernard Herdan, appointed chief executive of the agency last year. would be reduced because of the 'non-achievement' of ser-

vice targets.

The agency has been strug-gling with a massive surge in applications triggered by the announcement of a compulsory written driving test from July. It was also in the middle of a reorganisation. The average national waiting time for tests has risen to more than 712 Weeks, with waiting lists of longer than ten weeks at 15 test

Learner drivers have also complained about tests being cancelled at short notice because of a shortage of examiners: lost application forms and a telephone booking serrice that is almost permanently engaged. The agency lost its Chartermark in November as a result of the failings. Mr Herdan, 48, is paid a

centres.

basic salary of £59,044 and is entitled to a bonus of up to 15 per cent, of which about half. £4,000, is linked to meeting service performance targets. Sixty extra staff were being taken on to answer telephone

applications and part-time ex-

arniners were being trained,

Mr Herdan said.

The Hedgehog Hospital at



Kelvin: spikes fell out

MP tackles a prickly problem

By PAUL WILKINSON

KELVIN the hedgehog is feeling the cold more than most. He is partly baid. Animal welfare workers have given him a woolly coat until the rest of his spines grov back.

Kelvin was a victim of the kind of attack that a Private Member's Bill to be discussed tomorrow in Parliament seeks to outlaw. Youths in a school playground sprayed him with red paint and the toxins caused his spikes to fall out.

Alan Meale, the Labour MP for Mansfield, will introduce his Wild Mammals (Protection) Bill, which would make it an offence to mutilate, kick, beat, nail or otherwise impale, stab, burn, crush, drown, drag or asphyxiate" any wild creature. But unless the Bill attracts government support it is unlikely to progress far.

Hull is treating Kelvin with the ointment propolis, made by bees, to stop his skin going dry, and feeding him with

CALL THE WORLD FOR A FEW BOB LESS.



	Thurst 2	100
£1.28	£3.40	62%
£7.39	£11.34	35%
£4.81	\$7.05	32%
£4.22	€6.56	36%
£4.34	₹8.77	51%
£2.34	£5.23	55%
£7.16	\$9.94	28%
£1.75	₹3.40	49%
£2.22	£2.59	14%
£6.69	Ω8.25	19%
֡֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜֜	£7.39 £4.81 £4.22 £4.34 £2.34 £7.16 £1.75 £2.22	£7.39 £11.34 £4.81 £7.05 £4.22 £6.56 £4.34 £8.77 £2.34 £5.23 £7.16 £9.94 £1.75 £3.40 £2.22 £2.59

(Price comparison based on a 10 minute call)

* Savings to 100's of countries * All major credit cards and Delta accepted

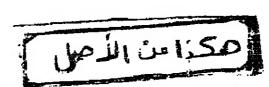
*"Minute Miles" bonus available

* No start-up costs, membership or joining fees

* Business and Residential customers welcome.

* Operators available, 24hrs a day, 7 days a week. FREEPHONE 0800 376 66 66





THE TIMES THURSDAY JANUARY 25 1996



The way we were: Carla Bruni, the Italian model, in Forties-revisited Saint Laurent with turban, left. A severe suit with nipped-in jacket, centre, and a cocktail dress for Hollywood nights from the spring-summer collection

Wartime fashions invade the catwalk

Paris haute couture goes demob happy

FASHION EDITOR

NOSTALGIA is sweeping the haute couture collections as designers roll back the years and find inspiration in wartime fashions. At the start of the week John Galliano dipped into the archives for his Givenchy presentation, then Karl Lagerfeld produced his splendid homage to Coco Chanel's golden years. There was no rationing of

lamour in Paris yesterday as Yves Saint Laurent reinven-ted the 1940s. Models appeared on the carwalk looking ike Greer Garson or deadringers for the wartime trio The Andrews Sisters, as their songs played over the soundtrack.

The look was further emphasised with timewarp accessories - factory worker turbans by Louise de la Falaise, and clunky ankle-strap shoes with peep toes. Saint Laurent also went for Demobstyle tailoring in the form of



Garson: the inspiration for catwalk favourites

delicate floral dresses with puffed sleeves and pussycat bows which fied at the neck. He featured mannish jackets with severe shoulders over pleated skirts or Oxford Bags but it was after dark that the designer really came into his own. Maribou jackets in pow-der htue and pink were worn

over skimpy black lace dress-

es while colourful evening

past, regularly reinventing certain decades through rosecoloured spectacles, usually linked to a popular film of the day. The 1940s have proven especially popular - even Saint Laurent featured similar styles on his ready-to-wear catwalk in the early 1970s.

In the 90s designers have been keen to turn back the clock with reworkings of ev-ery decade since the 1930s on catwalks in New York. Milan and Paris. There has even been talk that the 1980s era of Power Dressing and Designer Living will be the latest decade to be revisited.

Detractors of these trips back in time fear that in the future there will be no defini-tive image of the 1900s for historians to look back on. only a mish-mash of various trends and styles from earlier decades.

However, nostalgia seems to make good business sense. Designers are delighted to self past fashions with price tags -SATURDAY-IN THE TIMES

A-Z of Personal Finance

Win £10,000 to invest in Peps in the A-Z of

Personal Finance, a 16-page guide How to live without

electricity bills the economics of the energy-saving house, in Weekend

PLUS Vision, your seven-day guide to television

and radio

Air cadet tells of helicopter crash into lake

By A STAFF REPORTER

AN AIR CADET yesterday described how she struggled out of a wrecked RAF helicopter that had crashed into a mountain lake. Three other arder-died.

"I feit for the door, swam outand inflated my lifejacket." Sarah Coker, 19, told an inquest at Llandudno, North Wales, "I had my eyes open. but could see nothing underwater. When I reached the surface I could see no one else. from the helicopter, I saw a man in a boat in front of me. He pulled me in."

Miss Coker, of Bury, Greator Manchester, was the only earthor from a group of four radots, Christopher Bailey, 15. of Horwich, Greater Manhester and Mark Oakden. io, and Amanda Whitehead, 17, both of Bury, died, The 30year-old Wessey helicopter-



Sarah Coker: three other cadets died

crashed into Llyn Padarn Lianberis, on August 12, 1993. Miss Coker told the inquest that she and the other cadets were briefed by Flight Ser-

geant Andrew Larcombe at RAF Valley in Anglescy. "I understood everything I was told." But the briefing had been about crashing on land. We were given no instructions about the operation of a lifejacket," Miss Coker added. although she knew how one

Recalling the crash. Miss Coker said: "I heard a noise from the tail rotor. It was a metallic clanging ... I was only aware it was an emergency situation when the aircraft crashed into the lake."

The door was open when the helicopter hit the water. "At first I could not get my seatbelt off. I had some difficulty because I am left-handed. You release it the right-handed way. But through instinct. I was turning it the wrong way. Then I managed to undo it." Miss Coker had no recollection what the other cadets were doing as she struggled

Earlier. Flight Sergeant Larcombe said he instructed the cadets for nearly an hour in a similar Wessex. He did not brief them about lifejackets or liferafts but he did deal with ditching in water.

An RAF inquiry report, released in November 1995, showed that the accident resulted from a failure in the tail rotor blades. The crew members will give evidence later.

Angler obsessed by Beast that got away

By ROBIN YOUNG

AN ANGLER is giving up work so that he can devote himself to catching what he believes is the biggest freshwater fish in Britain.

lan Mann, from Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, once hooked the catfish, nicknamed The Beast. He says the fish, which inhabits gravel pits at Leighton Buzzard. Bedfordshire, weighs 120th.

Mr Mann, a father of four. has given in his notice at the 2 foundry where he works and intends to fish non-stop from June lts. "I am obsessed with The Beast he said yesterday. "It looks like the Loch Ness monster and, when you see it jump, it scares you to death. "I had it on my line once for an entire hour. I was just about to land it when it straightened my hook and escaped. I stood at the lakeside and cried my eyes out. I am 42 this year and my time is running out. My wife is very understanding. Mr Mann is now using 4in

hooks so strong that they cannot be straightened even with pliers. He baits them with a whole tin of luncheon meat or with a lft. 4lb carp. Marie Mann, an assembler at a light-fitting factory, said:

"I have got used to his obsession with fishing and I often go along to sit and watch. If I did not, we would hardly see each other. Ian has been thinking about giving up work for so long that I am not going to stand in his way."





BUY A CLIO OR LAGUNA ON ON FINANCE - OVER TWO YEARS.

There's no better way to start the New Year than with a new Renault. And this year it's easier than ever. Because right now you can buy any Laguna. and most Clio models, on 0% finance - with a full two years to pay. Alternatively, the new Special Edition Clio Paris costs just £000 on the road. While its near relation : the Glio Versailles comes complete with free insurance." The moral? Forget "auld acquaintance" if you like. But don't forget to visit your Renault Dealer.

TYPICAL EXAMPLE CLI		CLIO RN 1.2 3dr	LAGUNA RN 1.8
Cash Price (inc.)	on the road costsif	£9,586.00	£12.235.00
001	Deposit 50%	24,790 09	£5,117.40
11/	24 monthly payments	£199.56	2254.90
0/0	Total Credit Price	£9,580 eV	£11 235 00



English Heritage accuses Roman Catholic diocese of deliberately neglecting listed church

Victorian cathedral 'left to vandals and thieves'

THE Roman Catholic Church was accused by English Heri-rage yesterday of deliberately letting a former cathedral fall

St Mary's Old Cathedral. Middlesbrough, was once a magnificent example of Victorian ecclesiastical architecture and the spiritual centre of munity. The red-brick, Grade II* listed building now has a rotting roof that lets in rain. the stained glass windows are smashed and boarded up. statues removed or stolen and the canopied pulpit, furniture and fittings wrecked beyond

Hundreds of pigeons roost in the hammerbeam rafters while the marble and wooden marquetry floor, now stripped, has been home to drug addicts. Vandals have followed in the wake of thieves and dragged the building "to

the point of no return". English Heritage attacked the Middlesbrough diocese for its management of a church in the top 7 per cent of listed buildings for artistic and historical importance. The preservation group has grown impatient waiting for the church authorities to apply for a grant for structural repairs.

We believe the current state of the cathedral is due to

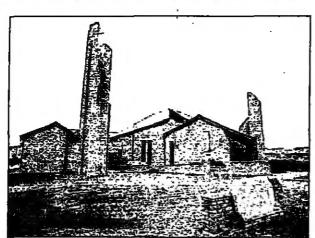
6 MICROWAVES ELECTRIC &

8,000

CENTRAL HEATING KITCHENS SHOWERS

SURROUNDS

GAS



The new cathedral, built in 1986, which residents say triggered the decline of the old building

from demolition. The plight of the building in a district blighted by the decline of the

iron ore industry has given

residents the impression that

they have been abandoned by

the Church. The congregation of about 50 worships in a

Layers of pigeon droppings

had to be scraped from the

pews in June when the last service was held. It was a first

Communion for children from

school. Eileen Moran, the

head, said: "The church is

precious things, the mosaics,

the leaded windows and

Christopher's primary

vandalised and the

community centre.

deliberate neglect by the dio-cese," a spokesman said. "We are actually encouraging them to apply for grant aid so we can give every help we can to preserve this as a place of

"We are waiting on the Church. Unless they apply to us we cannot make a response. We want it to be properly maintained and looked after. so we want them to come

The Right Rev Monsignor Raymond Charlton, the diocesan financial secretary, denied the allegation. He said yesterday that negotiations with a developer have raised hope that the building can be saved

"It was once the centre of the community and now its doors are locked and the broken windows boarded up. We would love to see part of it for the use of the community and reopened as a living church

again."
St Mary's was designed by
George Goldie and completed in 1878. Pevsner's The King's England praises the building pulpit and Chapel of the

The church's decline was triggered when Middlesbrough's new cathedral, also dedicated to St Mary, was built at Coulby Newham in 1986. Residents say the depredation has been accelerating since the resident Father Peter Keeling, left alfan Stubbs, chairman of St

Hilda's Partnership, a local regeneration agency, has been dismayed by the vandalism and theft.

Precious mosaics, decorated panels, candlesticks and vases have disappeared. A presidential chair and wooden angels were stolen the night before Mr Stubbs led a team into the church to save anything of

Property has been recovered from Darlington and one



The disused red-brick church, once praised as a magnificent example of 19th-century ecclesiastical architecture

dumps," he said. "Nobody is telling anybody who lives and works in the community what

Earlier this month Dr Rory O'Donnell, an English Heritage inspector, wrote to the diocese describing the buildworship again.

The diocese has been tryin to sell the property for five years and one project to develop it for offices fell through only recently. Monsignor Charlton hopes that talks with new developers to turn the commodation, training and education centre for young people may succeed. A chapel for the community would be

He said: "To infer that there was a deliberate policy, on behalf of the trustees, to allow the building to fall into disre-

FOR the first time a restau-

rant meal in Ireland is "worth

a detour", according to the 1996 edition of the Michelin

Guide, published today. The book promotes two restaurants to its two-star rating.

Pied a Terre in Bloomsbury central London, and Patrick Guilbaud in Dublin. The

latter wins the first two star.

Terre, a 12-table respinirant specialising in gournand

food at prices from £22 for a

three-course lunch to £48 for a four-course dinner, puts Rich-

ard Neat on the same rating as his mentor, Raymond

Blanc, at Le Manoir aux

Quat' Saisons, near Oxford,

ments to have two stars. There

are four restaurants with

three stars; they are un-

changed from last year.

Seventeen additional one-star awards increase the total

to 68, while the number of

restaurants with Red Ms, which indicate consistent care

rating in Ireland.

demolition order is manifestly

"It is alleged that we have not done enough and that is particularly hurtful. We have been trying to find an alternause for a listed building and that is particularly diffi-cult, particularly for a large

and attention to meals, rises

by 25 to a total of 93. Derek

Brown, the guide's editor, said yesterday: "On average, standards throughout the ho-

The guide now includes recommendations for 4,886

hotels and 1,083 restaurants.

Greenhouse, Interlude de Chavelsand L'Escargot, cen-

House, Bristol; Fleur de Sel

Hasiemere, Surrey: Box Tree, likley. West Yorkshire: Pool Court at 42, Leeds: Merchant

House, Ludlow, Shropshire, Lovells at Windrush Farm,

Minster Lovell, Oxfordshire

Ullswater. Cumbria; Llan-

goed Hall, Llyswen, Powys, One Devonshire Gardens,

Glasgow, Shanks, Bangor, Co Down: Broome's, St Aubin,

Jersey: Shiro, Ahakista, Co

☐ Michelin Red Guide to Great

Cork; Thornton's, Dublin.

Britain and Ireland (£12.99)

COLLECT FOUR

TOKENS TO FLY FREE

WITH VIRGIN ATLANTIC

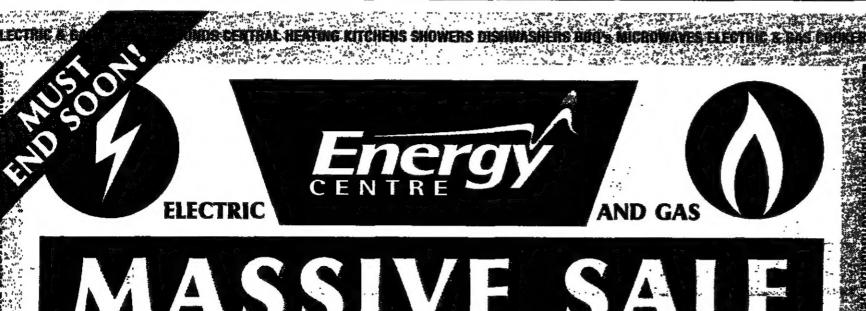
Sharrow Bay Country

or. Blackburn: Har

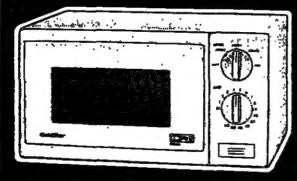
Michelin honours

Irish restaurant

BY ROBIN YOUNG



MASSIVE SALE



SAVE £70

GOLDSTAR MA1705

Sale price £79.99

■ Double oven ■ Sealed plate hob

TRICITY SI 055 (WHITE)

Normal price £499.99 Discount £35,00 Extra Sale discount £65

PARKINSON COWAN RENOWN (WHITE)

■ Servery style grill pan

■ Glass fronted oven door

Normal price £349.99 Discount £25.00 Extra Sale discount £25.00

6 MONTHS INTEREST ON SELECTED COOKERS

AUTUMN DISCOUNTS EXTENDED, PLUS EXTRA SALE DISCOUNTS ON

£20 DISCOUNT

 Autocook and defrost programmes Normal price £249.99 Discount £20.00 Sale price £229.99 6

CANNON MISTERNATIC

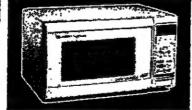
■ Attractive wooden cased fire

Sale price

■ 3.5kW heat output

EASY WAYS

unt £25.60



6 BURLEY LANGHAM 200

GLEN STRANKAER ■ Realistic Log effect ■ Log effect fire ■1kW or 2kW fan heater ■ 2kW heat output Price £58.99 Normal price £149,99



Sale price £129.99

SAVE £20 VALOR ADORN

■ Fireslide top control ■ Hand crafted coals



6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE CREDIT' LAPRO'S FREE HOME

NEW WORLD ESTEEM 3000 (WHITE) Clear glass oven door ■ 'Sola' grill for fast, even grilling .

SAVE £100

Normal price £499.99 Discount £50.00 Extra Sale discount £50.00 Sale price £399.99

STAFF WHO KNOW ABOUT OUR

ELECTRIC & GAS PIRES SURROUNDS CENTRAL REATING KITCHENS SHOWERS DISHWASHERS BER'S MICROWAVES ELECTRIC & GAS COOKERS

rationwide Electrical products are available at Energy Centres and other relected British Gas Shops. 0800 850 900



FREE CREDIT' (APR 0%) AND FIRES, AND ALL FIRE AND SURROUND PACKAGES.

SELECTED PRODUCTS

Sale price £399.99 SAVE £100



Sale price £299.99 SAVE £50

CERCTRIC

Two for one flights

BUY ONE flight and you can take a friend with you for free.

The Times, in association with Virgin Atlantic, brings you this exciting opportunity to take an extra holiday for just a fraction of the normal cost. All you have to do is collect four different tokens from your

favourite quality daily newspaper this week, pay the applicable fare to your chosen destination, and you will receive another return ticket for the same flight free. Full terms and conditions appeared in Monday's paper and will be printed again on Saturday with another booking form. Tomorrow we will

also repeat the flight and fare guide with details of how to take advantage of this offer. You can save an extra E30 off the low season

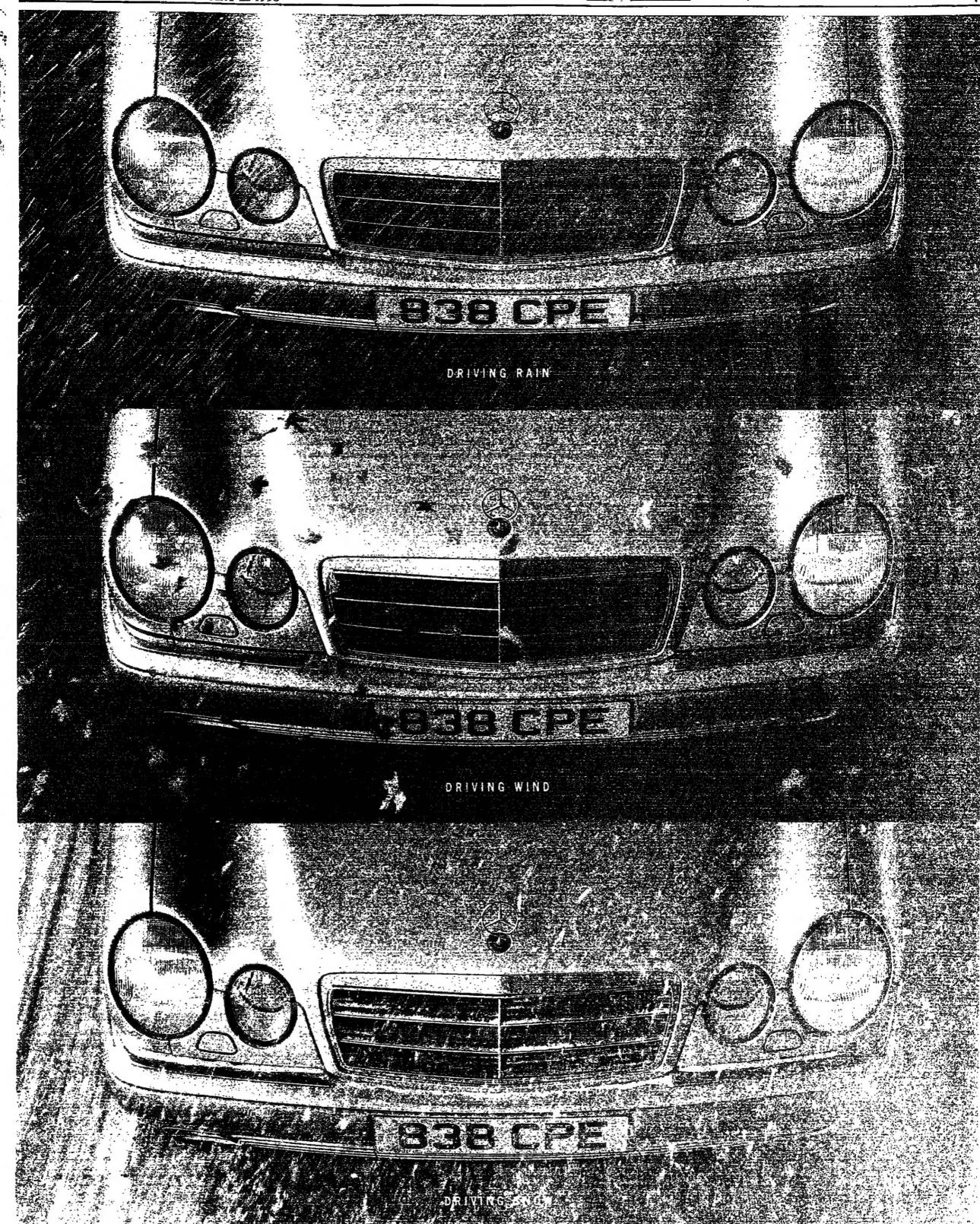
fare and still qualify for a free ticket if you travel between Feb 1 and 29. With the exception of the Easter holidays and flights to Hong Kong during Chinese New Year, you can choose when to go. Passengers are required to stay one Saturday night and the offer is valid from Feb !

until June 20, 1996.

THE TIMES virgin atlantic 2 FOR 1 TOKEN 4

PLAY OUR ACCUMULATOR SCRATCHCARD TO WIN VIRGIN FLIGHTS - SEE PAGE 38

GUARANTEES DELIVERY AVAILABLE ON MOST TO PAY PRODUCTS:



The new Mercedes E-class. It's equipped for all driving conditions.

There are elements inside the new Mercedes E-class that will help you cope with the elements outside.

We've developed ETS, a new electronic traction system. It means you can drive on surfaces as different as ice and tarmac safely and simultaneously, with no loss of traction.

We have developed an optional rain sensitive windscreen wiper. A sensor adjusts the speed of the wiper automatically to the amount of rain falling. The harder it rains, the faster it works.

We've redesigned the headlights. They are not, however, just a different shape.

They are more powerful, better directed and have a longer beam.

We've improved the aerodynamics, too.

The new E-class is the most streamlined production saloon ever built. It holds the road much better in high winds and is also quieter at high speeds.

In actual fact, whatever the weather, we forecast that conditions for driving the new Mercedes E-class will always be fine.



Mercedes-Benz Engineered like no other car.

THE VERCEDES E-CLASS FROM \$22.500 CAR SHOWN E-CLASS ELEGANCE FROM \$22.000 EXCLUDES DELIVERY IDASS WILLIAMS INCOMEDIATES PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS FOR MORE INFORMATION PHONE C161-516 9386 E-FT 100, www.marcent-complete unit measurements and incomplete captures and incomplete capt

Commission convinced that paramilitaries will never surrender weapons before talks begin

Compromise is the only way ahead, says Mitchell

By Nicholas Wood, Chief Political Correspondent

DESTRUCTION of terrorist weapons should take place during all-party talks on the future of Northern Ireland, the report of the international body set up by the British and

Irish governments says. The report, from the threeman team chaired by George Mitchell, the former US senator, says its proposal is a compromise intended to break the impasse in the quest for a lasting peace in the Province.

The report, which calls on all parties to affirm their commitment to six fundamental principles of democracy and non-violence", says the deadlock over decommissioning has obscured the widespread agreement that already exists in Northern Ireland: "Members of both traditions may be less far apart on the resolution of their differences than they believe. No one should underestimate the value of a consensus for peace, and the fact that no significant group is actively seeking to end it."

The dispute over decommissioning is a "symptom of a larger problem: the absence of trust. But a resolution of the decommissioning issue ... will not be found if the parties resort to their vast inventories of historical recrimination.

Or, as it was put to us several the process of all-party negotitimes, what is really needed is a decommissioning of mindsets in Northern Ireland."

The report makes detailed recommendations on the arrangements for decommissioning illegally held weapons and suggests further confidence-building measures.

☐ Decommissionin On the key issue of decommissioning paramilitary arsenals, the report says: "We have concluded that there is a clear commitment on the part of those in possession of such arms to work constructively to achieve full and verifiable

decommissioning as part of

ations. But that commitment does not include decommissioning prior to such negotia-"We have concluded that the

paramilitary organisations will not decommission any arms prior to all-party negotiations. That was the unanimous and emphatically expressed view of the representatives of the political parties close to paramilitary organisations on both sides. It was also the view of the vast majority of the organisations and individuals who made oral and written submissions. it was not that they are all

THE SIX PRINCIPLES

The report lays down six principles of non-violence and democracy. All parties should commit themselves to: ☐ Democratic and exclusively peaceful means of resolving political issues. The total disarmament of

all paramilitary organisa-Agree that such disarmament must be verifiable by an independent commission.

Renounce for themselves.

and to oppose any effort by

others, to use force, or threaten to use force, to influence all-party negotiations. ☐ Agree to abide by the

opposed to prior decommis-

terms of any agreement reached in all-party negotiations and to resort to democratic and exclusively peaceful methods in trying to alter any aspect with which they disagree

Urge that punishment killings and beatings stop and to take effective steps to prevent such actions.

sioning. To the contrary. many favour it. But they are convinced it will not happen. That is the reality with which all concerned must deal."

In a reference to the position of the British Government, it says: "We were told that the clearest demonstration of adherence to democratic principles is the safe removal and disposal of paramilitary arms, and that at this time only a start to decommissioning will provide the confidence necessary for all-party negotiations to commence."

But this was not acceptable to Sinn Fein, the SDLP, the Irish Government and the loyalist paramilitaries.

We were told that decommissioning prior to all-party negotiations was not requested before the announcement of the ceasefires, and that had it been, there would have been no ceasefires; that those who entered into the ceasefires did so in the belief that they would lead immediately to all-party

The report says that each side of the argument reflects a "core of reasonable concern" that should be appreciated by the other. Those who insist on prior decommissioning need to be reassured that the commitment to peaceful and dem-



General John de Chastelain, left, George Mitchell and Harri Holkeri at the launch of their report yesterday in Belfast

ocratic means by those formerly supportive of politically motivated violence is genuine and irreversible, and that the threat or use of such violence will not be invoked to influence the process of negotiations or to change any agreed settlement. Those who have

been persuaded to abandon violence for the peaceful political path need to be reassured that a meaningful and inclusive process of negotiation is genuinely being offered to address the legitimate con-cerns of their traditions and the need for new political

arrangements with which all can identify." The parties should consider

an approach under which some decommissioning would take place during the process of all-party negotiations, rather than before or after as the parties now urge. Such an approach represents a compromise. If the peace process is to move forward, the current impasse must be overcome." The report says that adher-

ence to six principles would create the climate in which allparty talks could proceed. These commitments, when made and honoured, would remove the threat of force before, during and after all-party negotiations. They would focus all concerned on what is ultimately essential if

the gun is to be taken out of irish politics: an agreed political settlement and the total and verifiable disarmament of all paramilitary organ-

Weapons disposal
The commission advises on the practicalities of destroying weapons. The report's first

the decommissioning prosuggest neither lear. It says that the IRA and loyalist products not surrender

but rather of a willingness to address differences through political means". Decommissioning should take place to the satisfaction of an independent commis sion. which would be ap-pointed by the

British and Irish governments after consultations with all parties. The commission would operate independently in both countries and would

enjoy appropriate legal status and immunity. The report says that such a commission should be able to draw on independent sources of legal and technical advice and adequate resources to receive and audit armaments and to observe and verify the decommissioning process. It would also be able to call upon the assistance of the British and Irish armies. Decommissioning should result in "the complete destruction of armaments in a manner that contributes to

public safety. Techniques would include cutting up or

chipping of small arms and

other weapons and the controlled explosion of ammunition and explosives. Four methods are suggested for the removal of weapons: arms could be handed to the commission or designated representatives of either gov-ernment for destruction; information on the whereabouts of weapons could be passed to the commission or government representatives; arms could be deposited in an agreed location for collection by the commission or government representatives: parties should also have the option of destroying their own weapous. The report says that the

the appointed commission. ☐ Amnesties Decommissioning should not

expose individuals to prosecution. The report says: "Individ-uals involved in the decommissioning process should not be prosecuted for the possession of those armaments; amnesties should be established in law in both

jurisdictions. "Armaments made available for decommissioning, whether directly or indirectly. should be exempt under law from forensic examination. and information obtained as a result of the decommissioning process should be inadmissi-ble as evidence in courts of law in either jurisdiction."

☐ Confidence building The report says decommissioning should take place "on the basis of the mutual commitment and participation of the paramilitary organisations", and goes beyond its strict remit to offer comments on further confidence building

it says that the 'early termi-nation or paramilitary activities, including surveillance and targeting, would demonstrate a commitment to peace-

methods and so build trust among parties anxieties of the general popu-lation". Information on the fate of missing persons and the return of those forced to leave their communities would also help. Further moves by the Government to release terror-

ist prisoners would bolster

trust, as would

early imple-

mentation of

the proposed

review of the

Northern Ire-

land. The re-

port rejects

ATTACOUNTY

 $\mathcal{I}_{i,m}$

domi

'A resolution will not be found if the parties resort

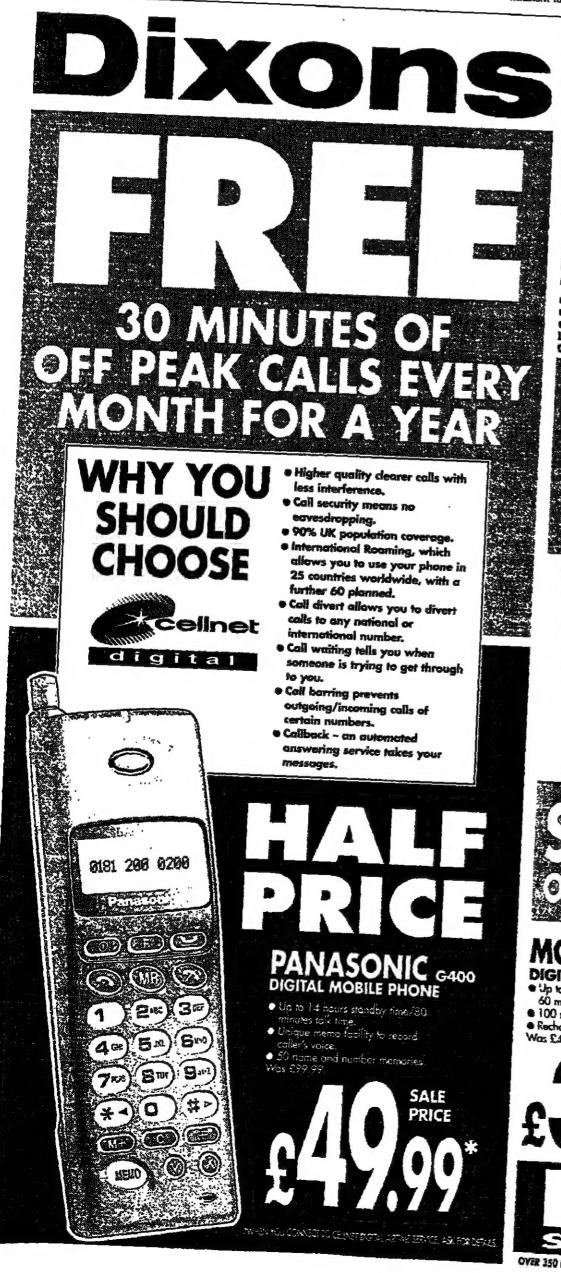
to their vast inventories of historical recrimination'

> commissioning to be extended to weapons held by British troops in Ulster. There is no equivalence between such weapons and those held by the security forces. However, in the context of building mutual confidence, we welcome the commitment of the governments ... to continue to take responsive measures, advised by their security authorities, as the threat reduces."

The report goes on: "We share the hope ... that polic-ing in Northern Ireland can be normalised as soon as the security situation permits. A review of the situation with respect to legally registered weapons and the use of plastic buliets. and continued progress toward more balanced representation in the police force would contribute to the building of trust."
In a reference to the Ulster

Unionist call for an elected assembly as a forum for allparty talks, the report says: "Several oral and written submissions raised the idea of an elected body. We note the reference in the Communique [issued by the two governments in November 1995 to how an elected body could play a part. Elections held in accordance with democratic principles express and reflect the popular will. If it were broadly acceptable, with an appropriate mandate, and within the three-strand structure, an elective process could contribute to the building of confidence.

•







OVER 150 HIGH STREET BRANCHES NATIONWIDE. TEL: 0181-200 0200 FOR YOUR NEAREST BRANCH

مكذات الأصل

Election plan cools early welcome for peace blueprint

By Nicholas Watt, ireland correspondent

appointed, but not surprised, that the international commis-

sion backed away from calling

on terrorists to decommission

some of their arms before

talks. In a statement, the party underlined its disagree-

ment with the report's main

finding by pointing out that a recent opinion in the Belfast

Telegraph showed that 83 per

cent of people in Northern

Ireland wanted terrorists to

The Democratic Unionists

the only mainstream polit-

ical party to refuse to meet the

commission - rejected the report out of hand. Peter

Robinson, the party's deputy leader, said: "If one puts all

the ingredients for fudge into

the pot then that is exactly

what will come out. Those who proposed the setting up of this commission now look

rather ridiculous set beside the

failure of the body to extract

one bullet from terrorist

JOHN MAJOR's proposal to hold elections in Northern Ireland drew a cool response last night from the Irish Government, which remains deeply sceptical of establishing an elected body in North-

ern Ireland John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, who spoke to Mr Major yesterday, pointed-ly remarked that the body was one issue which London and Dublin had agreed to discuss in their "twin-track process".

As Sinn Fein accused Mr Major of "dumping" the pro-cess. Mr Bruton underlined his irritation with Britain by saying that the Mitchell Commission had said that an elected body would have to meet strict criteria.

Speaking in Dublin, Mr Bruton said: "The Mitchell report said that an elected body could play a useful part if it was broadly acceptable to both nationalists and Unionists, if it had an appropriate mandate and if it respected the three-stranded approach." This would mean that Dublin would have to be given a role in the assembly.

The Taoiseach added that Unionists would have to persuade nationalists of the merits of the body. He added: "The iroportant thing I want to stress is ... to establish that Unionists and nationalists are partners in a joint endeavour. They will only achieve that if they sit down together."

The Irish Government has been deeply sceptical of the Ulster Unionist plans for an assembly. Dick Spring, Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister, recently described David Trimble's idea as "deeply flawed".

Dublin shares the concerns of the SDLP and Sinn Fein that an elected body would hand Unionists a veto over political developments in Northern Ireland. They believe that an assembly in Northern Ireland should be established only as a result of an agreement reached at allparty talks. They fear that Mr Major's proposals would amount to an internal settle-

ment in Northern Ireland. president, reacted furiously to

Mr Major's proposals, accus-ing the Prime Minister of imping the Anglo-Irish twin-track process. In a terse statement issued in Belfast, Mr Adams said: "The Mitchell report was the conclusion of one track of the twin track which was set up to move us all into all-party talks by the end of February. In his reaction to this John Major has effectively dumped the twin-track process. He is quite clearly acting in bad faith by

swapping one precondition to all-party talks for another.' In an echo of John Hume's comments in the House of Commons, the Sinn Fein president added: "John Major has now adopted an entirely Unionist agenda in an attempt to buy Unionist votes at

It was left to Bertie Ahern. the leader of the main opposition Fianna Fail party, to express the anger felt in Dub-lin last night at Mr Major's comments. He said that he regretted that even before the ink had dried on the Mitchell report Mr Major had, in effect, rejected its findings.

The angry nationalist response to the elected body contrasted with upbeat com-ments earlier in the day from across the political spectrum. Hopes had been raised that the Mitchell Commission would break the deadlock in the Northern Ireland peace process when Unionists and Sinn Fein gave he report a surprisingly favourable

Mr Adams had sounded an upbeat note when he said within minutes of the report's publication that it provided a basis for moving forward. David Trimble, the leader of

the Ulster Unionists, was more circumspect, but he was heartened by the recommendations that political parties should sign up to six principles.

The MP for Upper Bann took heart that the first two principles called on parties to commit themselves to "democratic and exclusively peaceful means" and to the "total disarmament of all paramili-Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein tary organisations".
resident, reacted furiously to Ulster Unionists were dis-



Adams, top left: accused Major of dumping the twin-track process; Spring: believes an assembly is flawed: Robinson: report "a fudge": Trimble: heartened by the six principles

Trimble scores personal victory

By OUR IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR's proposal to establish an elected body in Northern Ireland is a personal triumph for David Trimble. the Ulster Unionist leader.

Within weeks of his election as party leader last September the MP for Upper Bann called on the Government to break the deadlock in the peace process by establishing such a body. Mr Trimble pledged that if Sinn Fein stood in elections his party would talk to republicans across the floor of the elected body before the IRA had decommissioned its

Unionist sources talked of the body as a "bribe" to join all-party talks. Some sources initially thought that Mr Major would reject the proposal and they were even planning to draw up alternative proposals.

The Ulster Unionist leader-ship, who were delighted that Mr Trimble's proposal was included in last November's Anglo-Irish communique. have gone to great lengths to reassure nationalists about their plan.

Mr Trimble talks of an elected body and refuses to describe his plan as an assembly. He is aware that nationalists fear a return to the "bad old days" of a Unionist-dominated assembly at Stormont. He also says that the assembly would have a time limit of two years and says that it would have relations with the Irish

Under his initial plans each of Northern Ireland's 18 par-liamentary constituencies would elect five people to the assembly, creating a body of 90 members. However, it is understood that the Government has tried to allay nationalist fears by limiting the body to 45 members.

That would mean grouping the parliamentary constituencies into twos. The larger constituencies would then elect five members to the body. Ulster Unionists are not keen on plans to limit the size of the body. They point out that it would make it much more difficult for smaller parties, particularly the fringe loyalist parties, to win seats. However, one UUP source said that the party might be

prepared to compromise by

supplementing the 45 mem-bers with Northern Ireland's



*PLUS DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT

A NEW ROVER 100 KENSINGTON. FROM £79* A MONTH WITH FREE INSURANCE," IT'S GOT TO BE WORTH A SECOND LOOK.

What's this?

It rather looks like a young policeman's fancy is turning towards a new Rover 100 Kensington.

And what does he find?

Luxury wheel trims, tinted glass, stereo radio/cassette, 5-speed box and if we're not much mistaken, a rather fashionable Windsor interior trim.

But as it comes with a year's free insurance," an engine immobiliser and a remote controlled alarm, she won't be needing us for an escort.

Also to be seen around town is the Kensington S.E., with tinted sunroof and remote central locking into the bargain.

23,300.00

For a free test drive or a brochure phone now on 0345 186 186

They're both available in pearlescent Nightfire Red and White Diamond. Or in this case, metallic Kingfisher Blue.

Matches her eyes.

The figure's quite attractive too. It starts at just £79° a month. Sigh... I think I'm in love.



CALL SHOWN POWER 100 KENSINGTON 3 DOOR, 14,973 THE PRICE CORPORT OF THREE OF CORPOR TO MINEL INCLUDES ASSED OF ONE SUBJECT TO STATUS A CUMPANTER MAY BE REQUIRED THROUGH NOVER FINANCE LTD, AVOID HOUSE 435 STRATFORD POAD SHIPLES, SOURCEL AND OTHER SHIPLES TO STATUS A CUMPANTER MAY BE REQUIRED THROUGH NOVER FINANCE LTD, AVOID HOUSE 435 STRATFORD POAD SHIPLES, SOURCEL

Major's feel for a risk continues to defy doubters

JOHN HUME's bluff was called yesterday and he did not like it. The leader of the SDLP has for long enjoyed an international standing as the man of peace in Northern Ireland. His word has been accepted almost without challenge in Dublin, Washington and, until 18 months ago, by much of the Labour Party.

Yet in private, British ministers, and many politicians of all parties in Northem Ireland, have been increasingly irritated by his approach, in particular since his close association with Gerry Adams of Sinn Fein in their

joint peace RIDDELL ON initiative. Mr Hume is ac-cused of being trapped by Mr Adams, of POLITICS

all the time wanting to see Sinn Fein rewarded with a place in all-party talks even if it makes no commitments

The Prime Minister and his advisers have seen Seamus Mallon, Mr Hume's senior SDLP colleague, as both more reliable and more representative of views across the nationalist community. These feelings have re-mained largely hidden until now, but yesterday the

mask slipped.
John Major had seized the initiative over the Mitchell Commission's report by proposing the early establishment of an elected body as a means of bringing all parties together. This is intended as a confidence-building measure as part of the cross-party talks. The body would not have a legislative role and would not be like the previous Northern Ireland assemblies which the nationalists distiked. The SDLP, and in particular Mr Hume, has viewed such elections as a side issue and as a block to early all-party talks involv-ing Sinn Fein. His angry and personal criticism of the plan, including the

charge of "buying votes" to stay in power, infuriated the Tories. Mr Major let slip some of his pent-up feelings about Mr Hume in an impassioned reply, talking about "a tragedy of enormous proportions" if a barrier was put up at this stage to progress towards peace in Northern Ireland.

By contrast, Mr Major's tone was more of regret over the less personal criticisms from Mr Mallon. The Prime Minister almost pleaded to him, as an ally in the long peace initiative. to support elections as a

means of moving the initia-

tive forward. Otherwise. Mr Major received backing from all

parties. Tony Blair made a point of emphasising Labour's bipartisan approach. The only limited dissent came from the SDLP's close Labour allies such as Kevin McNamara.

The SDLPs stance, as much as Sinn Fein's, will obviously be crucial to the success of the electoral proposal. And last night both were highly critical. But as Mr Major argued, with the backing of the Labour unionist Kate Hoey, it is hard for any party to por-tray elections as an

obstruction. The key to the peace initiative is maintaining momentum. It is a world where there is no perfect or permanent solution. The last hope of that probably went in 1885-86 with the collapse of Gladstone's first Home Rule proposal. All that politicians can hope to do is to contain most of the disagreements within an agreed political framework of discussion. Mr Major yesterday again showed a commitment and a willingness to take risks which has defied both his critics and the doubters over the past two years.

PETER RIDDELL

Major's tenure curtails rise in standard of living

THE gap between rich and poor, which widened during the Thatcherite 1980s, has remained almost constant during the economic slowdown of the Major years.

Coming to a rather more abrupt halt is the seemingly relentless rise in single parenthood, to the surprise of statisticians.

Social Trends, the 248-page book of official statistics published today, will make comforting reading for a Prime Minister who declared he wanted a nation "at ease with itself". Carol Summerfield, associate editor of the book, said people were now "getting better qualified, taking early re-tirement and holidaying abroad"

The poorest 10 per cent have seen their household's disposable income remain steady since the start of the 1970s from the equivalent of just below £100 in 1971 to just over £100 in 1993.

The richest 10 per cent enjoyed a sharp rise from INCOME AND SPENDING

Reports by DOMINIC KENNEDY

about 1300 a week in the early 1980s to more than £450 when Mr Major entered Downing Street. Their incomes have risen tittle since in real terms.

For the country as a whole. real household disposable income rose by 45 per cent on average from 1971 to 1990. The proportion of births

outside marriage, which has increased from 5 per cent in 1960 to about 30 per cent, has also stopped climbing. "It seemed to be going inexorably upwards for the past 20 years or so," said Jenny Church, Social Trends' Editor, "then there was virtually no change between 1993 and 1994. It is too early to say whether that was a temporary phenomenon but certainly the rate of in-

crease slowed right down." The average British household spends £2.05 a week on the National Lottery, well under half the amount spent on cigarettes and less than I per cent of total weekly

expenditure. The fastest-growing items of household spending, nearly quadrupling between 1971 and 1994, were tourism abroad and monetary services including life assurance and pension fund contributions.

UK tourists in foreign countries spent an average £363 per visit, about £32 a day, Spain has regained from France its position as the most popular destination for foreign holidays.

Ownership of colour televisions has almost reached saturation point at 97 per cent of households, compared with telephones (9) per cent), washing machines (89 per cent) fridges and freezers (88 per

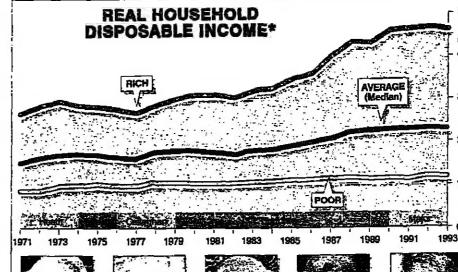
cent), microwave ovens (67 per cents and tumble drivers 150 per cent).

Home computers were found in 48 per cent of families with children compared with only o per cent of homes where a person lived

Compact disc players and dishwashers were also more prevalent in households with children.

Social Trends looked closely at cohabitation, which is much more acceptable to the younger generation than to their parents or grandparents. Only o per cent of women under 35 feel that living together is wrong, compared with 34 per cent of women over 64. Men are slightly more inclined to disapprove.

Figures show that, in a year. 16 per cent of cohabitating women marry their man. Another 9 per cent of unmarried partnerships break up. Fifty per cent of cohabitations last 2.7 years or less. Sixty per



1974 - 1976

cent of women who cohabit have never been married. "One of the most striking trends is the lengthening of the education and post-work retirement phases of our lives," Ms Summerfield said. More than 50 per cent of three and four-year-olds are at school,

vears ago. There has been a spectacular increase of more than 40 per cent in the number of fulltime students in further or higher education in the three

years to 1993-94. Students tend to have very different spending priorities from the rest of the population. After housing, the second highest category was enter-tainment - at about £23 a compared with 20 per cent 25 week this was almost 50 per cent higher than on food. More than half of that went on alcohol and tobacco, although women students tended to

spend more than men on

clothes. Just over 50 per cent of men aged 60-64 were economically active in 1994 compared with 80 per cent in 1971. "Retirement is these days more likely to be seen as a period in which to enjoy the fruits of life rather than as the beginning of dependence," Ms Summerfield said.

☐ Social Trends (Stationery

Men leave household chores to partners

THEHOME

WOMEN are still lumbered with the largest share of household chores. They spend more time than men on cooking, housework and shopping, even if they have full-time

Almost eight in ten women say that they always or usually do the washing or ironing --seen by many as among the worst jobs around the house. The survey also found that 59 per cent of women are left to decide what to have for dinner, with the decision being

shared in 35 per cent of cases. Men are more likely to help with shopping for groceries, which is a shared task for 52 per cent. Three out of four couples say that repairs around the house are done by

Men also spend longer at work and travelling to work. Their total on average is 53

hours a week. The report reveals that on average, an adult has tive hours of free time on weekdays and eight hours' free time each day at weekends. However, even at weekends, women's free time is two hours less than men's.

listening to the radio remain the most popular way to pass free time, with an average 19 hours a week spent in this

Watching the television or

Only three hours a week are spent reading, says the survey. This is the same amount of time spent on going out for

meals or drinks. Men are more likely than women to participate in sports and physical activities, but the gap has narrowed over time Participation decreases with

AN BRIEF CD boom signals swansong for vinyl

Compact discs sold more than 100 million copies as viny! LPs slumped. CDs accounted for two-thirds of trade deliveries of alburns in 1994 while LPs fell from nearly 90 per cent in 1973 to just under 3 рет сепt.

The market share of CD singles increased from 6 per cent of all singles in 1989 to more than 47 per cent in 1994, while 7in singles fell from 61 per cent to 7 per cent.

Women are more likely to buy cassette tapes while men are more loyal to vinyl. Pop is the favourite type of recorded music, followed by rock.

Stitch in time

Only 3 per cent of men said they did dressmak-ing, needlework or knitting. The number of women who carry out DIY has grown by 30 per cent. Men would rather watch television (99 per cent), see friends (95) listen to the radio (91), do gardening (51) or DIY (57). Watching television is equally popular with women and men.

Hidden crime

Recorded crime rates vary considerably across the country. In 1994 there were more than 15 recorded notifiable offences for every 100 people in Humberside, compared with four in Northern Ireland. Many offences are never reported to police. Almost half of wounding offences and a third of domestic burglaries go unreported.

Dental habits

About half of all adults go to the dentist for regular check-ups but attendance varies with class and socio-economic grouping. Almost two thirds of professional people go regu-larly, compared with less than two fifths of unskilled manual workers. Women's attendance at the dentist is considerably higher than men's.

Smokers down

The number of cigarette cline. In 1972. 52 per cent of men smoked compared with 28 per cent last year. There has also been a reduction in the number smoking middle-tar cigarettes, down from 40 per cent in 1986 to 2 per cent last year. This is partly because manufacturers have reduced tar yield.

Church change

Congregations at mainstream churches have fallen by about 25 per cent since 1970 but the Orthodox and the smaller free churches are growing and membership of "non-Trinitarian" groups such as the Mormons has risen by 75 per cent. Four in ten people say that religious belief plays no part in

Elderly take note of diet messages

FOOD AND EXERCISE

THE elderly eat better than the young. Social Trends re-ports that 16 to 24-year-olds are less likely to eat fruit, vegetables and salad regularly and are more prone to eating confectionery and taking sugar in coffee.

High-fibre cereals and wholenieal bread are most popular among the 65 to 7+ year-olds, while skimmed and emi-skimmed milk are a favourite for two thirds of people aged 45 to 64. The elderly are more likely. though, to add salt in cooking and to use solid fat.

Changes in diet since the early 1970s suggest Britons may be taking note of healthyeating messages. Less red meat is eaten while poultry is growing in popularity. Only three lifths as much butter was eaten in 1994 as in 1986, and consumption of low and reduced-fat spreads increased almost two and a half times.

Britons ate 13 per cent more fresh fruit in 1994 than in 1971. On a less healthy note, consumption of fresh vegetables fell by 10 per cent while processed vegetables increased by more than half.

Almost three fifths of men and just under half of women

aged 16 and over were overweight or obese. Obesity was most prevalent among those aged 55 to 64. A quarter of over-los in England have had at least one cardiovascular condition related to weight problems. Most common was high blood pressure, found in 10 per cent of women and 8 per

cent of men. Britons cycled 4 billion kilometres in 1994, a fifth of the distance cycled in 1904. Walking was by far the most popular sporting activity among the elderly. A third of men over 70 walked. Some sports were the preserve of youth. No men over 70 chose

football as a sporting activity. Men are over four times as likely as women to play cue sports such as snooker, pool and billiards, or to choose golf. Women are more likely to take

part in keep fit or yoga. Swimming, running and Jogging were more popular with non-manual workers. darts and cue sports with

manual workers. People in Wales have the best access to sports centres and swimming pools. Greater London has the lowest provision for sport in England, the East Midlands the highest.



FOR THE FASIEST REPAYMENTS, COUNT ON BRITAIN'S MOST RELIABLE CAR

	TYP					door, mileag per mile plus VA		<u>. </u>	
OYOTA Terrs	Cash price: (on the road) £12,559	Deposit 35% £4,395.65	Credit £8,163.35	Period 24 Months	[Minimum Value/ Final Rental £6,651	Total Amount Payable £13,339.65	Charge for Credit** £780.65	APR 5.4%

Besides the easiest Toyota terms, the Corolla GS gives you a specification that's tough to match. Along with electric front windows and sunroof, it has power steering, a driver's airbag, central locking and an engine immobiliser. There are seat-TOYOTA belt pretensioners, a 4-speaker radio/cassette, side-impact beams, even a high-mounted rear stoplight. For your nearest dealer, call 0800 777 555. WARRANTY And for the best run for your money, test drive the '96 Corolla.

THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA



MPs in search of a show trial are disappointed as leader's plea for party unity succeeds

Harman's ordeal falls short of lurid expectations

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS billed as the execution of Harriet Harman. But the highly charged meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party never quite turned into the show trial expected vesterday. A passionate speech from Tony Blair calling for party unity proved enough to turn

the tables, demonstrating yet again his hold over the party.
At 11.20am the first MPs
started drifting into Room 14 on Westminster's committee corridor, grim-faced and baying for Ms Harman's blood.

There was talk of MPs de-

manding a vote to seal her

fate. One said: "If she doesn't resign, I will." At 11.28 a tense Ms Harman turned up, flanked by Henry McLeish and Alan Milburn, members of her health team. She had spent part of the morning visiting her daughter's school, where the child was playing the cello in her

first public performance. At 11.30 Tony Blair walked in, smiling nervously. Most of the Shadow Cabinet had al-

ready taken their places.
Officials had said that MPs were evenly divided into those for and against Ms Harman and it was clear from the start that the meeting would be antagonistic, with three MPs, Paul Flynn, Alice Mahon and Clive Soley, calling for her to

resign.

Many of the ten backbenchers who spoke deliberately did not mention her name but agreed that the party should unite over the issue. Michael Martin. MP for Glasgow Springburn, insisted that there was no justification for Ms Harman's decision to send her child to a grammar school. He had been faced with the same choice and had sent his children to his local comprehensive. If he wasn't allowed to send his child to the best school, why was she, he

Clive Soley, MP for Ham-mersmith, called for her resignation, arguing that she had to accept collective Shadow

Cabinet responsibility. He said that the Tories and the press would continue to exploit the dispute unless she stepped down.

Mr Soley went on to defend his own education at an innercity school where violence and bullying were the norm. "I came away with the ability to cope with life in a way that people in protected schools do

Roy Hattersley, the former deputy Labour leader, also criticised Ms Harman but did not openly call for her to resign. He urged to party to campaign on its commitment to comprehensive education saying it was vital to kill any idea that the party was revis-

Paul Flynn, MP for Newport West, alienated many of



Soley: called for Harman's resignation



Grant surprising

Ms Harman's critics when he turned on Mr Blair, criticising him for sending his son to the grant-maintained London Or-atory. He attacked the "golden circle" around the leader and accused him of going against the principles of the party.

His attack made several MPs wince with embarrassment and helped to change the mood of the meeting. They were out to get Ms Harman, not Mr Blair.

Other speakers capitalised on Mr Flynn's error of judgment. Gerald Kaufman called on the party to unite against the Tories and George Howarth said that other MPs would face similar difficult decisions. But the most surprising person to support Ms Harman was Bernie Grant, the MP for Tottenham. He railed against the standards of schools in his constituency and across London, regretting having sent his children to

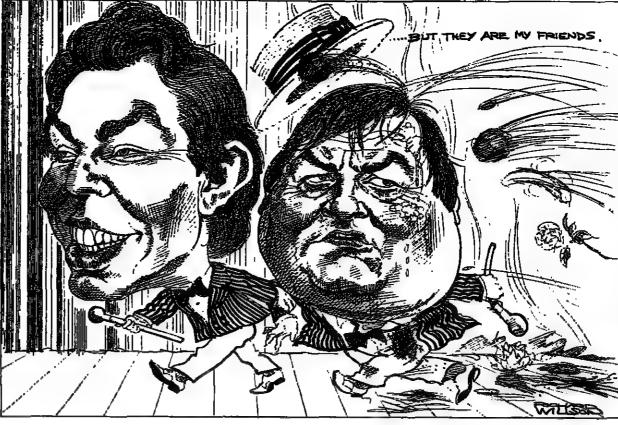
"I understand that people want the best for their children," he said. "London schools are a disgrace. They were bad under Labour but now they are rotten." In an emotional five-minute

speech, Ms Harman apologised for the trouble she had caused the party. "I deeply regret that any decision I have taken has given any succour to the Tories and any opportunifor them to attack the Labour Party," she said.

MPs gave her a sympathetic round of applause but many were not convinced by her apologies. "It was pitiful," said It was left to Mr Blair to

rescue her. In an emotional speech he called for the party to "pull together". It was enough. The MPs left the meeting singing his praises. They had almost forgotten Ms Harman. "She could have been Fred West's accomplice and we would still have supported him," one MP said.

Leading article, page 19



Double act with Prescott that Blair can ill afford to harm

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

ordon Brown and Robin Cook may be the brains in the Labour leadership, but John Prescott is much more than its brawn. Without him Tony Blair would be able to achieve little, and no one knows it better than the Labour leader. As the Harriet Harman

crisis began to subside yesterday, yet again the deputy leader's value to Mr Blair was underlined. It is an open secret at Westminster that the occasionally fiery Mr Prescott is deeply unhappy at the events of the past few days.

First of all he was not told in advance the news, known only to a handful of leadership friends, that Harriet Harman was to send her son to a grammar school. Then through error rather than a conspiracy — he was not told of the plan to leak it to selected newspapers last Friday to preempt what would have been more damaging coverage in the weekend press, leaving him flat-footed when giving radio interviews on other matters on Saturday morning. When he did learn about it he was appalled at what Ms Harman had done. He did not semi-publicly call her a """ as some reports have claimed, but he was less than complimentary about his colleague.

It was not the first time that Mr Prescott had been left "out of the loop". He was not a recipient of the notorious Philip Gould memo - suggesting that Labour was not yet fit for government — which was leaked during last year's TUC conference; nor was he at the New Forest gathering of Blair friends and media experts last year, leading to claims that he had been excluded.

It would be no surprise to learn that Mr Prescott, along with an overwhelming majority of the parliamentary party, would prefer Ms Harman to resign. Had he rebelled against Mr Blair's decision to

represents Northern Ireland.

FINEST EXAMPLES

OF THE MINTER'S ART

set is housed in a blue leatherette case.

for details).

stand by her he would have had much of the party behind him. But Mr Prescott knew that was precisely the outcome desired by the Government. A split between the Labour leader and his deputy is the golden scenario over which most Tories drool. Mr Prescott's stony expression in the Commons on Tuesday raised their hopes that he was close to breaking point.

e swiftly realised. however, that the survival or otherwise of Ms Harman had become the battle that Mr Blair could not afford to lose. It had been elevated into the crucial test of new Labour, if Ms Harman had to go for exercising her choice as a parent, old Labour would triumph and Mr Blair would be severely, perhaps fatally, wounded.

So Mr Prescott, being the party trooper that he is, swallowed his deep reservations and went along with his

BE ONE OF THE FIRST TO POSSESS

leader. The two had a lengthy chat on Tuesday after Ques-tion Time before Mr Blair's strategy of backing Ms Harman took shape. Thereafter he was on board and the crisis began to ease. Mr Prescott was by Mr Blair's side as he told his MPs that he would not yield Ms Harman's scalp. In his own contribution later he could not bring himself to mention Ms Harman but his message was clear:

"Let's put it behind us." The MP Gerald Kaufman has observed the relationship grow. "John has a genuine loyalty to Tony - it is striking," he said.
Mr Prescott has admitted

privately that in spite of his initial misgivings Mr Blair was right to abandon the Clause Four commitment to nationalisation. Mr Blair would not have accomplished that change without him. The leadership will be wary of straining Mr Prescott's loyalty

Tories try to keep up the pressure

By James Landale

HARRIET HARMAN took her fight for political survival to the Commons yesterday, hitting back at Tory MPs in a debate on the health service.

Undaunted by persistent heckling from the Tory benches, the Shadow Health Secre-tary attacked the Government for its creeping privatisation of the NHS. She said ministers had ignored what she called the "crisis" in healthcare pro-vision that was forcing hospitals to turn away the sick.

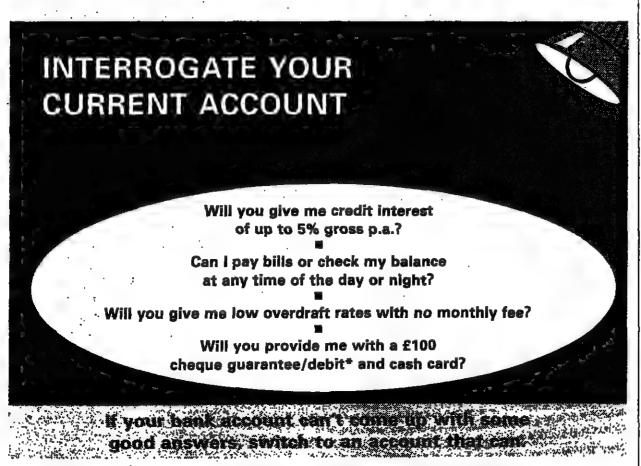
She responded to Tory MPs interventions about the gram-mar school row by telling them that they should be more interested in the NHS than in "making cheap points". She condemned the increase in the number of managers and bureaucrats in the NHS combined with cuts in the number of nurses. "The NHS is becoming less and less and public service and more and more a private business run on the basis of cost, not of need," she said.

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, praised Ms Harman for supporting diversity and choice in education. The reason Ms Harman is right and virtually all her colleagues on her own back benches are wrong is that she has shown by her actions that she endorses the principles and values of a free and open society," he said.

That is important in the world of education and equally important in the world of

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY in the Commons: back-bench debates; education and employ-ment questions; Labour-initiated debate on the National Health Service. In the TODAY in the Commons: questions to Northern testand ministers and the Prima Minister, France Bdl, committee stage; the Health Service Commissioners (Amendment Ball, remaining stages, in the Lords Fernity Law SBL, committee stage; the standard Toburel for the Law SBL on the Law SBL of the La



It's a simple decision. If your current account can't say 'yes' to the questions above, it's easy to switch to one that can.

With the Alliance Account from Alliance & Leicester, you have control of your money, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. If you want to pay a bill at midnight or check your balance first thing in the morning, just pick up the phone.

As well as round round the clock telephone banking, you have access to your account through a network of nearly 350 branches and 8,500 LINK cash machines.

24 hour telephone banking

It's simple to switch

If your bank account can't come up with the right answers, switching to the Alliance Account is easy - we'll even help you



transfer direct debits and standing orders. For more details, call us free on 0500 95 95 95 or complete and return the coupon below.

Find out more today, call FREE on:

0500 95 95 95

		son below.
!	Please send me more info Account from Alliance &	ormation about the Alliance Leicaster.
	Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms	Initials
	Sumame	Address
		Pastcode
1	Tel. No. (Home)	(Work)
1	Date of birth//	_
į	Are you an Alliance & Lei	icester customer? 🗇 Yes 🗇 No
	Return to: Alliance & Leicester	ALLIANCE

LEICESTER

Alliance Account All applicants must be aged 18 or over, and agree to pay a minimum of \$300 each month for gan' cheque each term) into their account. Applications issuing of the £100 cheque guarantee dust and overfact (accitios are subject to an appraisal of your Improval position. Written quotations available on request. Interest or cream batances will be payable not at payable on payabl

Alliance & Leicester Building Society, Heritage House, 61 Southgates, Leicester, LS1 5RR

reepost (LS 948),

PEACE OF MIND - DIRECT FROM THE ROYAL MINT: If you're not entirely happy with your coins, we will refund your money in full if you return the collection within 30 days.

ROYAL

MINT



Santer tells euro doubters 'the clock cannot be stopped'

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

JACOUES SANTER, the President of the European Commission, tried vesterday to silence the growing chorus of doubt over European monetary union but had to compete with new questions over the project from senior French and Spanish politicians.

"It is irresponsible to sow doubts" on its fate, said M Santer at the close of a threeday conference called by the Commission to launch a publicity campaign for the birth,

In months away, of the curo. M Santer took issue with Carlos Westendorp, the Spanish Foreign Minister and a leading figure in European affairs, for a suggestion it might be preferable to "stop the clock" and delay the 1999 deadline set in the Maastricht treary until Britain. Spain and Italy could join the single currency. "Stopping the clocks will not prevent the 21st century arriving," said M Santer. His reference to a "credibil-

ity crisis", made in the

monumental new European Parliament building in Brussels, merely echoed comments heard around the Continent. But his words stung because he has played a central role in the Union in recent months as chairman of the Reflection Group that prepared the ground for the forthcoming Maastricht treaty review.

M Santer and his team were also taken aback yesterday by a suggestion from Valery Giscard d'Estaing, the former French President and fervent pro-European, that the treaty's terms could be bent to allow the curo a painless birth on time. M Giscard said the Maastricht criteria on economic convergence should be massaged to take account the EMU calendar.

M Santer welcomed all ideas but said that nothing should get in the way of the Maastricht text.

M Giscard d'Estaing's proposal drew on the fact that the

Madrid disclaimer

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

CARLOS Westendorp, the Spanish Foreign Minister, attempted vesterday to limit the fall-out from his doubts about the European Union's ability to launch a single currency by January 1999. In the process. however, he insisted that the plan for economic and monetary union (EMU) was immersed in a "credibility

Señor Westendorp claimed that he had been quoted out of context by his Government's own news agency. Efe, when he said that "stopping the clock" might be the only way of meeting the deadline for introducing the euro.

The position of the Spanish Government in general and of myself privately is that the single currency is something

that has to become reality, and it's a good thing economically and politically. As far as I am concerned, it will appear on January i, 1999. Spain ought to be, and can be, in the first group of countries that has the single currency."

He also insisted that his references on Tuesday to the possibility of "stopping the clock" if Britain, I aly or Spain could not join were hypothetical. "I don't think it's going to happen." he added. "I believe that monetary union is going to happen as long as there are enough countries, in quantity and importance. But monetary union without France and Germany and one of the other countries like Italy. Spain or the United

EMU without full compliance in special circumstances. However, that flexibility has. in effect, been eliminated by recent fierce pressure from Germany for strict adherence to the criteria.

The wave of monetary angst across the Continent has embarrassed M Santer and his team. While privately acknowledging the uncertainties, they argue that doubters only play into the hands of "anti-Europeans" in Britain, France and elsewhere. M Santer said there was no point going on the defensive and leaving the ground to critics spreading counter-projects". Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the

Commissioner for the EMU project, agreed, saying: "We are not working on alternative scenarios. We are applying the letter of the treaty."

The project's scale became

even more apparent at M Santer's £750,000 gathering. Some 400 experts and Euroeminences agreed the single currency had little chance if people could not be swiftly convinced of its merits.

The first "lie" they wanted to purge is the belief, taking hold especially in France, that EMU spells unemployment. A narrow majority of EU citizens now believes that, according to a Commission poll. A key task will be convincing the German population, of which only 38 per cent is in favour of swapping the mark for the euro - only two percentage

points ahead of the British. Expert opinion was mixed, however, on whether the "explanatory campaign" in schools, at the bank counter and through local television. should focus on "euro-in-yourpocket" benefits or the overarching political goal of European union. The model campaign, said M Santer, was Britain's five-year effort that changed public opinion and prepared the country for dec-



their belinets on the ground in an anti-government protest outside the White House in Moscow yesterday, About 800 miners demonstrated in

Russian miners demand pay

against the failure of Viktor Chernomyrdia, the Prime Minister, to make good a promise to pay their

for Boris Yeltsin helped him to win the presidency in 1991, have turned against the leader and his Govern-

votes in December's parliamentary elections. They plan to maintain their picket of the White House for three days. If their demands are not met, they plan to begin a nationwide strike

Bosnia tribunal sets date for war crimes trial

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE first Bosnian war crimes trial has been tentatively set for March 18, when Dusko Tadic, a Bosnian Serb, will go before the international tribunal in The Hague, charged with killing prisoners in the Omarska detention camp.

The trial of the former policeman, arrested in Germany in 1994, is likely to last two months, and marks a decisive phase in the world attempt to bring to justice those individuals responsible for committing atrocities. It comes as a team of investigators, headed by Justice Richard Goldstone, is preparing to start uncovering evidence at suspected sites of mass graves in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In a clear change of policy, the investigators will now be

given support, protection and help by Nato forces in Bosnia. searching out and patrolling after initial resistance. Senior commanders believed such a officials are in Bosnia, and role would compromise the main function of the Nato force, the enforcement of the

Public opinion in the West has forced a swift reassessment, however. Nato forces will now be "pro-active" in

Dayton peace accord.

suspected grave sites. The international tribunal refuses to say how many of its

where they will go. However, an investigation of the fields outside Srebrenica, where it is suspected that up to 7,000 Muslim men may be buried,

Freedom brings sorrow for hostage

Sarajevo: Sadika Hajruli, 51, a frail woman held hostage by a Serb family in the basement of their house for three years, was released yesterday - only to learn that her mother had died a few days earlier. Mrs

and held by a Serb woman to be exchanged for her own Bosnian Government, Yesterday Mrs Hajruli's sister Izeta broke the news that their mother had just died. "We

wait any longer." Mrs Hajruli's husband, Kerim, a prisoner of the Serbs, has disappeared. The

is whether the tribunal will

investigate the role played by

President Milosevic of Serbia

in encouraging atrocities and

ethnic cleansing. Mr Justice Goldstone has held talks in

Belgrade, the Serbian capital.

indicted by the tribunal for

war crimes. The main difficul-

ty will be to ensure that they

Fifty-two people have been

Serb woman's daughter, Radojka Pandurevic, is still

Islamic retaliation have In Washington, the World Bank approved \$150 million (£99 million) in credits for Bosnia on Tuesday to help to rebuild the devastated country. The money is part of a \$500 million reconstruction package agreed last month.

127

 $\partial_{i,k}^{\mathrm{loc}}(x)$

 $T_{\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{2^{k}}} \cong \Sigma^{\infty}$

igha The c

M. 4 - 1 , 늘 쓰 . _ (成立2 1) 100 J 無なすが し PER PER Barren ...

Security for American troops

serving in Bosnia has been

tightened in the wake of fears

that they may be targeted by

Mujahidin volunteers, many

of them Islamic radicals from

the Middle East who are bit-

terly hostile to the United

States. In the wake of the sentencing of Omar Abdel-Rahman, the blind cleric who

masterminded bombings and

assassinations in New York,

American fears of a violent



You'll feel virtually nothing in the new Honds Civic Coupe . The Double Wishbone suspension can help amouth out

the bumpiest of surfaces.

Apart from the one that occurs on the surface of the skin

when casting your eye over the sleek new body shape.

A condition that is no less severe when you take the seat behind the steering wheel. Start the engine up and you really will begin to feel something. Put your foot down and you'll

immediately realise that the Coupe is a responsive beast, not just another sheep in wolf's clothing.

Beneath the bonnet of the Coupe SR is the programmed fuel injection system, perfected on the Formula One cars that powered Williams and McLaren to no less than six consecution world championships. Sounds a little bit thirsty, you may the But you couldn't be more wrong.

The Civic's V-TEC" engine was also developed in Forth

ent Fuel Consumption figures for Civic Coupe 1.61 SR: Union-34 impg. Constant 58mph 58/mpg, Constant 75mph 48 impg. On the road pack i







ANATOLE KALETSKY 27

The rights and wrongs of stakeholding



BOOKS 34,35

Coleridge: the restless genius of Kubla Khan



SPORT 39-44

Dallas Cowboy prepared to call the shots

HUNT FOR. **MISSING MILLIONS** Page 28

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY JANUARY 25 1996

Shorts puts 1,500 workers on notice

BY ROSS TIEMAN AND

SHORT Brothers, the Belfast aerostructures com-pany, last night put 1,500 workers on three-months' notice of redundancy in case efforts to rescue Fokker, the Dutch plane-mak-

A COUNTY ON THE

The workers are involved in building wings and other structures for the regional jets assembled by Fokker, which went into administration on Tuesday after the Dutch Government and Daimler-Benz, its German parent, failed to agree on a rescue plan. Roy McNulty, Shorts'

chief executive, said Shorts and other partners and suppliers on the Fokker 70 and Fokker 100 pro-gramme had offered substantial price cuts. But they were much smaller than the 40 per cent cut Fokker had demanded just weeks ago in a desperate bid to stay in the air.

"Our immediate focus is to help Fokker to survive in any way we can," Mr McNulty said. Shorts would continue to deliver wings to the administrator, he said.

Despite hopes in The Netherlands that Bombar-dier. Shorts' Canadian parent, may buy Fokker's commercial aircraft business. Mr McNulty said there were no plans either at the Bombardier head office or in Belfast to mount a rescue. Although lent zircraft, the regional jet market was oversupplied, and some would have to go, he said.

Bombardier, which also owns de Havilland, Canadair and Learjet, has just launched a 50-seat regional jet of its own.

Shares in Fokker lost half their value, falling to just 3.2 guilders after trading resumed on the Amsterstock exchange. Industry sources believe buyers may be found for Fokker's aircraft servicing and defence equipment manufacturing businesses. which are not in administration. But they insist that over-capacity in regional aircraft makes the emergence of a buyer for the regional jets and turboprop business, which employs more than 4,000, unlikely.

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH GAS is appointing a

new finance director, and a

new head of strategy and com-

munications, in an effort to

reinforce its top management

and polish its public image. Roy Gardner, finance direc-

tor, will relinquish responsi-

bility for the accounts to con-

centrate on renegoniating the

140 billion of take-or-pay gas

purchase contracts, and over-

see the company's response to

the introduction of competi-

tion in the household market.

With the move comes a

£20,000 pay rise, to £320,000.

The finance job goes to Phil-ip Hampton, 42, the \$280,945

a-vear British Steel finance di-

rector. Mr Hampton; a form-

er director of Lazard Brothers.

the merchant bank, will earn

£295,000, and receive a one-off



Slipped disc: Bill Cockburn, left, group chief executive of WH Smith, pictured with Jeremy Hardie, the chairman. made a scathing attack on the company's corporate culture after reporting a fall in profits Page 25. Tempus Page 26

Solicitor convicted over Belling fraud

A FORMER solicitor and his co-conspirator were yes-terday found guilty of defrauding investors in an international multimillionpound fraud which included aking more than £3 million from the pension fund of

Charles Deacon, 54, a for-mer under-sheriff of Stafford, and James Fuller, 57, were convicted at Middlesex Crown Court on eight counts of conspiracy to defraud and obtain-

ing property by deception.

During the three-month trial, which was brought by the Serious Fraud Office after a joint investigation with Staffordshire police, the court heard how Deacon and Fuller. together with John Savage. defrauded individuals and businesses of more than £13

million. Savage, who was under investigation in the United States in connection with money-laundering allegations, died in Colorado before

Shake-up at British Gas

Hampton: options payout

£70,000 payment as compen-

sation for losing his 103,400

The appointment of John

Wybrew as £275,000 director

of strategic planning and o m-

munications creates a new

post. Mr Wybrew, 54, joins

British Steel share options.

he could be extradited for trial In the Belling case, the cash-

among students for its Baby Belling cooker, was persuaded to hand over a £3.5 million fee from the firm's pension fund to Deacon, a "trusted" solicitor, in return for a £50 million loan. The firm was shown a forged letter purported to be from Lord Tugendhat, then NatWest deputy chairman, talking about a £750 million

facility" As is the case with "advanced fee" fraud, however, the victim hands over the arrangement for upfront, usually to cover the so-called first year's interest payments, and

never receives the money. Belling could not withstand the blow and went into receivership in 1992. It is still not clear whether the Belling pen-sion scheme will ever fully recover all the missing funds and therefore he able to meet all its future liabilities to its

from Royal Dutch/Shell where he headed the response

to challenges by environment-

al campaigners over plans to

dump the Brent Spar oil rig at

sea, and over its record in

Ogoniland, Nigeria. Peter

Sanguinetti, the incumbent

head of corporate communica-

tions, will remain in post,

will be allowed to join British

Gas's new long-term incentive

scheme, which holds shares in

trust for executives until the

share price has improved over

The moves show a determination by British Gas to res-

pond more effectively to its es-

timated £1.5 billion liabilities

to buy unwanted gas, and to

adjust to competition for its 18

several years.

Each of the new directors

reporting to Mr Wybrew.

members. Besides Belling other victims included Russia's largest co-operative. Finland's pany and a Danish investor.

In some cases. fraudsters - described by John Goldring. QC, the successful SFO prosecutor, as "accomplished liars" claimed that they were acting for the CIA on the direct authorisation of George Bush. then US President, Savage, who produced bogus letters from the former President. claimed to be a senior CIA

Police believe that Deacon and Fuller, who claimed to one gullible victim that he was the inventor of the world's first heart-lung machine, were part of a 12-strong gang - four in America, the rest in Britain. To make sure they had their stories off-pat, a number of them would regularly meet to rehearse their carefully

crafted lies. Deacon used more than El million to repay a personal debt that he had assumed in connection with his involvement with a theatre in Stoke on-Trent and paid off an overdraft which at one point stood at more than £100,000.

In his opening speech of the last October, Mr Goldring told the central London court: "You may think it would be a difficult task to steal this amount. It is simpler than you think. All you need is a little nerve and a total disregard for the truth."

The jury of five men and six women took four hours to consider three and a half months of evidence and return unanimous verdicts. They were given a majority direction by the judge on two further deception counts still outstanding against the lawyer.

Deacon, who practised in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, and Fuller face up to 14 years in jail when they appear before Judge Fabyan Evans, QC, for sentencing today.

McAlpine sheds 300 jobs and core work

By Christine Buckley

ALFRED MCALPINE yesterday pulled out of core construction work. It said it will shed 300 jobs on top of 350 that have already been axed from its general building divi-sion with the closure of its traditional open tender

Blaming too many players chasing too little work, the company expects costs of redundancies and other reor-ganisation of £33 million. Oliver Whitehead, chief execuno luture in it for us."

million domestic customers. McAlpine will no longer be involved in general construc-Pennington, page 25

tion such as offices and public authority buildings. It is to take on higher value work such as sports stadia, leisure schemes and private finance initiative work, and has pledged a commitment to housebuilding.

The company said the radical reorganisation will mean a substantial loss for 1995, but it was hopeful of prospects beyond that. The share price ended 10p higher at 158p.

McAlpine had signalled over the past few years

Tempus, page 26

savage cuts last September. tive, said: "It wasn't easy for us to take this decision as the when it said that construction had run into a £2.3 million loss company was founded on for the first half of the year. It such work, but we have been forced to realise that there is has cut down the business

Bradford & Bingley makes loyalty rate cut

THE Bradford & Bingley. the seventh largest building society, vesterday cut its mortgage rate to 7.24 per cent - the lowest standard variable rate available - as part of a scheme to return £50 million in profits to savers and horrowers in improved rates. The 0.25 percentage point cut will reduce monthly payments on a £60,000 mortgage by \$10.

The Alliance & Leicester Building So lety is a so to announce a loyalty package for its customers, despite its plans to become a bank and seek a stock-market flotation. The A&L which is expected to make public its conversion plans on February I, will unveil its loyalty scheme towards the end of March. A&L confirmed yesterday that the society's board had already approved the scheme. No

details are, as yet, available. To date, loyalty and bonus schemes have been associated with societies wedded to mutual status. The societies aim to show that mutuality can have a tangible Jug-term value, equal to the

payouts now on offer when societies. such as the Halifax and the Woolwich. join the stock market. Despite persislent conversion and takeover rumours, the B&B's strong commitment to mutuality is clear. Its £50 million giveaway will be shared half and half between savers and borrowers.

The society says that its savers' rates would be, on average, 0.25 per cent above those of the competition. For both new and existing borrowers, it will reduce its variable mortgage rate from March 1. Those who arrange their mortgages through the B&B's

direct mortgage arm will now pay a variable rate of 6.25 per cent. Geoffrey Lister. B&B chief executive, said: "Our strong capital ratios, key measures of balance sheet strength, will be maintained at current high levels."

B&B's 1995 results will be out next month. Profits are likely to be slightly higher than 1994's £160 million. The Britannia Building Society, the eighth largest will shortly make an announcement about its long-expected mutuality reward scheme.

Pennington, page 25

Sir Rocco aims to buy back Forte hotel chains

By MELVYN MARCKUS AND ALASDAIR MURRAY

SIR ROCCO FORTE surprised the City yesterday with the news that he is working on a potential £2.5 billion management buyout of the Forte hotel empire - a little more than 24 hours after Granada emerged as victor in the £3.8 billion takeover battle.

Gerry Robinson, chairman designate of Granada, was informed by Sir Rocco of his intentions at yesterday's 3pm meeting at Forte's High Holborn HQ. Sir Rocco's buyout plans embrace Forte's Exclusive. Meridien and Heritage hotel brands, along with certain other hotel assets.

in a brief statement last night. Sir Rocco said: "I am leading a team working on a plan to purchase from Granada the hotel business of Forte other than Posthouse and Travelodge, My objective is to make a detailed proposal to Granada in the coming weeks." He added: "I believe that the new Forte company which could emerge is better placed than any other pur-chaser to develop the value of the Meridien. Exclusive and Heritage brands, and the London hotels,"

Sir Rocco said he was working to a short time-frame but no further details could be made public now. According to Sir Rocco, the meeting with Mr Robinson "was constructive and went well." Sir Rocco. who would be joined by his family as investors, is being advised by SBC Warburg, Morgan Stanley, JP Morgan. Cazenove and UBS - the same advisers that defended Forte against Granada.

Mr Robinson is believed to favour the sale of Forte's quality hotels to one suitor for tax reasons. The Forte family's 8 per cent stake in Forte is worth about £320 million and it is no secret that Sir Rocco had organised lines of credit of up to £250 million to mount a

defensive share raid. Granada responded by saying it had only announced its intention to dispose of the Meridien and Exclusive chains, but would be happy to talk to Sir Rocco and his team when he had put together an offer. Granada added it would pursue talks

with other interested parties. Several other potential buyers also publicly expressed interest in Forte's assets. Regal-Hotels, which agreed the £122 million purchase of the White Hart hotel chain with Forte only last Saturday, said that the deal remained on the table. The 72 White Hart hotels fit into the mid-market range targeted by Granada, but the hotels are much smaller than

Forte's other mid-market chains, Crest and Postbouse. Regal offered Forte a mixture of cash and convertible preference shares for the purchase and while Granada has said that it is unenthusiastic about anything but cash deals. it is understood that Regal has made contingency plans for alternative financing.

Accor, the French hotel com-pany, said it was assessing the Meridien chain, which the company lost to Forte 18 months ago in a £280 million bid battle. Accor, which is heavily laden with debt. stressed that it would look for external financing for the deal but would provide management at the chain. The Meridien chain, which now includes 85 sites after the conversion of the Forte grand format into the brand, is valued at about £800 million.

Stakis, the hotels and casino company, said it was also interested in potential purchases but had no strategic plan for acquisitions. Granada shares jumped 29p to close at 707p.

> Pennington, page 25 Tempus, page 26 City Diary, page 27

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

3-mth interbank . Liffelong gilt huture (Mar) 1113 = (11137 c)

New York:

1.4850° 5.0855° 1,1931°

NORTH SEA OIL Brent 15-day (Apr) | \$16.65 (\$16.45)

London close . . 8402.86 (\$402.90)

* denotes midday trading price

Adviser accused A Government advisor who

approved an £850,000 grant to a West Country computer company later became its chairman before it collapsed with debts of £2 million, MPs were told vesterday. Kenneth Holmes was accused of vetting the grant application from the Rom Data the board of the Falmouthcompany, Page 24

Accountancy

The £200 million defeat suffered by Glavn at the hands of the Inland Revenue over the prices subsidiary: companies within the group charge each other has gripped the accounting profession profession. Page 28

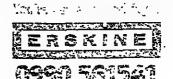


Independence brings you the widest choice of all the best office solutions for your needs. And Erskine is Britain's leading independent in its field.

Because we're not allied to any one manufacturer, we can also give you impartial advice on solutions that will make sense for your business. In fact, that's what we specialise in. We're not just suppliers, we're consultants with the business and technical expertise that give you a real choice of leading products, services, support, contracts and managed facilities.

No other independent specialist has as much experience in supporting major brands of copiers and faxes. And as the largest independent, we also have the resources to negotiate the most cost-effective solutions for your business.

Depend on the independent. Ask an Erskine specialist for a no-obligation audit.



Britain's no.1 supplier of leading brands of copiers and faxes

An ALCO Standard Chimpany



Rumours of Soros selling and bid talk rattle shares

if was another volatile day for the London market, dominat-ed by falling bond markets fter rumours that George coros, the international speculator, was a big seller, and by more bid talk and a couple of

large share placings.
The largest of these came as
Midland Bank offloaded its remaining 5.3 per cent stake in 3i Group, the venture capital group floated in July 1994 at 272p. James Capel, which is owned by HSBC, Midland's parent, was said to have placed 30 million shares at 40sp a share.

Last year, Midland reduced its 3i stake from 7.9 per cent to 5.3 per cent as part of last June's £440 million share sale by four bank shareholders. At the time, Lloyds and the Bank of England sold their entire stakes, while Barclays lowered its stake from 8.2 per cent to 5.5 per cent. Bank of Scotland and NatWest, 3i's other bank shareholders, held on to their stakes of 2.5 per cent and 17.8

per cent respectively.

3i shares ended 3p lower at 413p. on heavy volume of 62.4 million shares traded. HSBC dipped up to £10.96, while Lloyds TSB lost 6p to 337p, on volume of 11.6 million shares, and NafWest 7p to 667p. Bank of Scotland added 5p to 309½ p.

Meanwhile, equities failed to hold on to modest early gains as declining bond mar-kets on both sides of the Atlantic combined with a neg-ative start to trading on Wall Street. The US markets were again unsettled by fears that Congress may not pass the necessary legislation to allow the Government to cover its budget deficit

Sentiment was also hit by late speculative, but incorrect, talk that Eddie George, Gov-ernor of the Bank of England, was going to criticise the Chancellor's recent interest rate cut in a speech he was due to deliver at the London School of Economics last

night. The FT-SE 100 index ended near its worst of the day, closing down 24 points at 3,734.2. Second-liners fared better, with the FT-SE 250 only slipping 0.2 to 4,086.7. Volume, swollen by substantial placings in 3i and BAA, reached 857 million at the official close.

BAA, the airports operator, ended unchanged at 496p on heavy volume of 62.8 million shares traded after the Gov-



Torquil Norman, chairman, saw Bluebird shares jump 15p

ernment sold its 2.9 per cent stake. The Treasury raised about £140 million after selling about 29.5 million BAA shares to Merrill Lynch Smith New Court, the stockbroker, which in turn passed them on to institutions in a placing at 494p a share.

Shares in Granada, which this week won control of the Forte empire after its hostile

raise the necessary finance. Forte dipped 2p to 396p on heavy volume of 20.4 million Savoy A shares jumped 32p to £11.80, with the prestige hotel group seen as a prime target as a one-off buy after

Granada reported huge inter-

on doubts that Sir Rocco can

est in the 68 per cent stake which is up for sale. Jasmin, the electronic systems designer listed on the Alternative Investment Market, jumped 12p to 103p after accompanying increased interim profits with news of a record order book and a

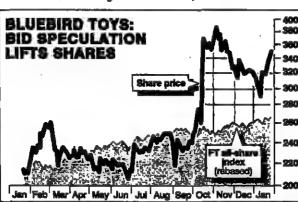
£5 million contract from GEC-Alsthom for passenger informa-

tion systems for trains on London Underground's Northern Line.

battle with the hotels and restaurants group, touched a new high of 738 2p, but then slipped back to end 3p lower at

Granada was initially lifted after saying it would be happy to consider a bid from Sir Rocco Forte for the Exclusive and Meridien chain of hotels once he and his team are in a position to put forward a serious offer, but lost ground has been gripped by takeover speculation, fell back after recent gains as the City took a calmer approach and accepted the rumours may yet again be unfounded. The shares retreated 26 p to 636p after the bank said it was not aware of any circumstances leading to the recent movement in its P&O, which is rumoured to

Standard Chartered, which



date, was the best performer among FT-SE stocks, with the shipping to property group steaming ahead 12¹2 p to 529p.

Toy companies were also the centre of speculative interest in the wake of the \$5.2 billion hostile offer from Mattel, the US toy group whose empire spans Barbie dolls to Fisher Price products, for Hasbro, its American rival. Among possible UK targets, Bluebird Toys, which is 6.7 per cent owned by Hasbro and is one of the UK's few remaining independent toy groups, jumped to 363p before ending at 354p, up 15p. Games Workshop added 7p

to 299p and Toy Options firmed 2p to 98p. Lasmo was also a good market, adding 2'2p to 172p. before a Nigerian drilling

British Biotech continued its remarkable advance, surging to £23.58 before closing at £22.38. up 70p, for a two-day gain of 268p. The shares have more than trebled in the past six months as investors become increasingly optimistic about prospects for Marimastat, the company's new cancer treatment which is

undergoing trials.

Elsewhere, Cantab Pharmaceuticals surged 85p to 530p, Corteca 33p to 270p, Scotia 19p to 503p and Anagen 5p to 75p. ML Laboratories, meanwhile, raced to an alltime high of 457p, up 46p at 400p after accompanying increased losses with a £25 million cash call.

Holliday Chemical dived 45p to 119p after issuing a profits warning. The warning unsettled others in the sector. with Yorkshire Chemicals down 22p to 258p, Laporte 13p to 644p, ICI 18p to 808p and Courtaulds 15p to 432p.

GILT-EDGED: Gilts suffered widespread falls. The March long gilt future lost 20 ticks to Elll¹¹/₃₂ on volume of 65,000 contracts. Among con-

ventional stocks, five-year is-

sues fell by about £4, while

losses extended to £4 among longer-dated stocks. ☐ ÑEW YORK: A sell-off in the US bond market continued to weigh on Wall Street shares and kept them trading lower at midday. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 14.09 at 5,228.75. Analysts said the market was also falling prey to some profit taking after a steep run, mostly

New York (midday): 5228.75 +14.09 Hong Kong: Amsterdam Sydney: Frankfurt 2443,72 (+20.65) Singapore Straits **Paris** Zurich: London:

	FT 100 17M.2 (-2M.0
	FT-SE Mid 250 4086.7 (-0.2
	FT-SE-A 350 1854.5 (-9.4
	FT-SE Europrack 100 1543.95 (+3.27)
	FT A All-Share 1828.67 [-8.5]
	PT Non Pinendials 1923.14 (-8.4
	IN Pored Interest 114.9! (+0.18
	FT Govt Secs 95.99 (-0.16
	Bargains
ł	SEAQ Volume
	USM (Datastrm)
1	US\$ 1,5148 (+0.0018
	German Mark 2.2369 (-0.0028
1	Exchange Index
	Bank of England official close (4pm)
1	£:ECU 1-1866
	E-SDR 1.0376
	RPI 150.7 Dec (3.2%) Jan 1987=100
	RPIX 149.6 Dec (1.0%) Jan 1987=100

Ballynatray Hidgs	6	- 4
Century Inns	LAB	
Cox Insurance	113	
Dmatek	74	- 1
Jupiter Split Cap	855	
Jupiter Split Inc	981	
Jupiter Split Uts	#59	
Mountcashe!	14	
Nihn Petim Wg	8	
Revelation Picc	105	
SkyePharma B Wts	δ'n	
Viewinn	165	~ 10.

	•	
Berkeley Gp n/p (435)	52	+ 3
Eleco Holdings n/p (28) 4	
Persona n/p (225)	32	+ :
Seafield Res n/p (65)	24	
Western Sel 11/p (14)	10	

7050	
Cantab Pharms 530p (+85p
Corteca	
Evans Halshaw 333p (
Parkland 193p (+10p
Kenwood App 270p	+12p
Bluebird Toys 354p	+15p
Eurodis Elec 307p	+12p
Scotia 603	+190
WH Smith 419p (
MAM	+ 10p
Waste Mgt Intl 340p	(+op
P & O 529p (+	12.20
S & U 322p (Macalian-Glen	T 130
wecomen-cieu	Tap
FALLS:	
Holiday Chem,	(-45p
Yorks Chem 256p	(-22p
Cons Murchison 140p	(-11p)
Medeva 217'sp (
British Vite 200p	
Barbour Index 290p	
Standard Chart 838p (-26'xp
Courteuide 432p	(-15p

333¹±0 (-10¹±

Boeing flies higher ers' consortium. The American firm is

gaining ground just as demand for airliners begins to recover from a four-year slide. The negative impact of a ten-week machinists' strike coloured yesterday figures from the Seattle manufacturer. Nevertheless, Boeing shareholders have Airbus to thank for the

leaner and meaner look of the American During 1994, and for the first time, Airbus booked more new orders than Boeing. The Americans responded with aggressive discounting, offering airlines planes for delivery

These deals are backed by a cost-cutting drive that Airbus cannot possibly match. The

in four years at prices 25 per cent below the

European consortium is hamstrung by its ownership structure, which gives the partners insufficient incentive to cut costs. Although British Aerospace, a 20 per cent partner. claims to be the world's most cost-competitive aerostructures company, Airbus is weighed down by the strength of the mark, the franc and the social costs of its French, German and Spanish partners.

Last year, Boeing booked two thirds of all new orders for commercial jets worldwide. This year it has extended its lead with sales projected to recover to \$22 billion. Backed by 2 66.5 billion order book, and despite the failure of merger talks with US rival McDonnell Douglas, Boeing's pockets are bulging with enough cash to develop new planes and make acquisitions. Unless Airbus pulls itself together, the skywar is all but lost.

Holliday

HOLLIDAY Chemicals is suffering from more than a bout of seasonal depression and the market duly thrashed the share pice after it said that there was little chance of any The Huddersfield com-

current cost of production.

pany closed a laundry products factory in Hull earlier this month. The move gave some credence to the growing alarm in the chemicals industry that the much talked about destocking is going deeper than expected and industry gossip suggests more fundamental shake-up. Yesterday, Holliday gave a

warning to the market of problems in ultramarine pig-ments. Holliday is the world leader in production of ultramarine dyestoffs and said that these high-margin goods were making up a

lower proportion of group sales. In spite of upbeat forecasts that demand for chemicals will pick up this year, Holliday fails to see any large-scale recovery in its sales or its order book.

Holliday earns a living from several niche chemical products including textile dye stuffs, hairdyes and photographic materials. Huge

surges in the price of raw materials have hurt margins. while sales have declined, increasing price pressure.

eral, illed raid id".

ind

tre

ÐД

Holliday's warning re-Chemicals, which is also exposed to dyestuffs. Without signs of renewed demand, investors are better off with minimal exposure to the chemicals cycle.



Burton

BURTON failed dismally to talk down its prospects yesterday. Words of caution received scant attention from analysts as they swiftly upgraded their profit forecasts for the retailing group. Burton has long been

dubbed a recovery stock, but until last year showed little evidence of living up to the title. Generating less than £100 million in profits from almost £2 billion in turnover, there certainly has been room for improvement.

The first sign of recovery was last year's sharp climb in margin, helping profits to more than double. Yesterday's news that the gain in gross margin had slipped from 2.2 per cent to 1.9 per cent was not unexpected. Instead of worrying that the pace of growth was slowing, the market took comfort from good like-for-like sales growth and evidence that margins are still on the rise. With raised profit expecta-

tions, the shares are trading on about 19 times earnings and at a 40 per cent premium to the sector. The recovery is still gathering steam, and so should the shares.

Mersey Docks

LIKE the proverbial bad penny, labour problems have continued to haunt the Liverpool docks. Mersey Docks and Harbour Company shareholders will wince at the idea of paying up to £8 million to dockers who abandoned their jobs in a quixotic gesture of support towards redundant employees of a separate, and now defunct,

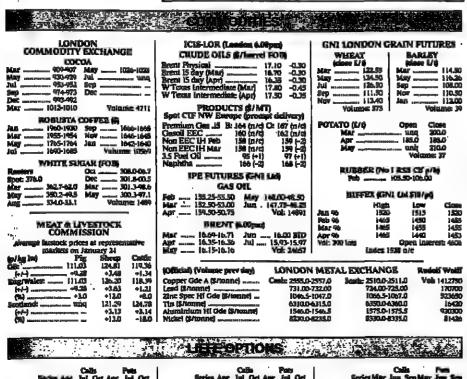
stevedoring company. It may, however, turn out to be money well spent. Britain has too many ports to service a small island, and rivals of Mersey Docks were busy seducing its shipping customers while the cranes stood idle at the Royal Seaforth Docks. The company claims to have retained all its important customers, but, even so,

portunity to seek concessions from Mersey Docks in ex-change for continued loyalty to Liverpool.

However, Mersey Docks has extracted an important gain from the strike. Productivity has vastly improved at the container terminal; jobs taken over by shippers and new working practices have reduced manning levels by half, a cost-saving that should make Liverpool more competitive and able to attract more custom.

Many of the dockers sacked in the dispute were approaching retirement; their age must partly explain their bizarre atempt to force a revival of the National Dock Labour Scheme. A reversal of the growth in activity over the past five years at the Port of Liverpool would kill off attempts to revive business on Merseyside, and the hope must be that the settlement will allow old wounds to heal.

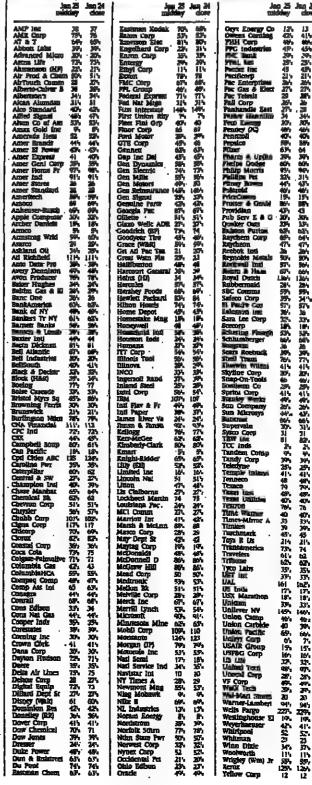
EDITED BY CARL MORTISHAD



Chills Polls Section Ager Jul Oct Aper Jul Oct	Callis Pair Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul Oct	Calls Pers Series Mar Jus Sep Mar Jus Sep
Angell	MAA	Abby Nist 600 464: 55 637: 11 31 29 (1334) 650 16 27 381; 37 464: 54 Amstrad 180 211: 28 33 a 97: 111: [195] 200 -107: 10 22 15 187; 211:
(*3314) 360 64 12 17 29 37: 40 ASDA	Series Feb May Aug Feb May Aug BAT Ind 950 ZP: JP: 46 F: 30 30	Barciays 750 45 55°, 60°, 14 24°, 34 (783) 820 16 30°, 43°, 40°, 50°, 50°, 50°, 50°, 50°, 50°, 50°, 5
(590) 600 234 334 41 19 224 34 37 Arrange 500 38 47 534 9 18 21 (5224) 550 124 21 20 34 43 464	(°570°4) 600 45 15 24 32 50 585 BTE	(*345) 360 8 141 21 201 301 36 Br Ges 240 141 181 231 65 141 171 (*2461) 260 6 101 15 161 261 261
500 295 40 447, 97, 15 196, (510) 550 65 16 21 38 42 46 Br Steel 160 105 14 155 65 115 13	By Acro	Dissorts
(**162) 180 3 6 7** 19** 25 25** C & W	Cadbery 500 43°, 50°, 61°, 2°, 13°, 19 (**40) 550 10 22 34°, 19 35°, 42' Guinness 460 16°, 25°, 33°, 5 17°, 22	Thrmac
[1528] 693 141, 261, 34, 461, 52, 60 [C1	(1994) 500 2 81 15 31 43 46 GEC 330 311 39 441 1 41 91 (1994) 360 85 19 25 81 15 22	(*1292) 180 7 9: 12: 6: 13 16 Longitio 200 9: 17 21 6: 10 13\ (*2092) 220 2 8: 13: 19: 22 23:
Ringstat	Harson 191 12: 9:	Sears
(%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%) (%)	Linchs	Tomkins 260 19 27 307 4 85 13 (22%) 280 75 16 20 12; 17; 22% 11mrds TSB, 322 20 27 8 145 -
Nat West 659 301- 47 557- 25 34 43 (1006) 370 101- 257- 34 571- 64 72 (251-250) 31 36 42 64 117- 15 (480) 420 13 20 26 18 26 291	(*157*) 19) 42, 11 19 7 105, 145 Presidential, 390 32 385 45 15 11 165 (*419) 420 11 195 295 10 25 30	(*33a) 352 51 135 - 264 31 - Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul Oct
Shell 900 49 55 64': 10': 16 23 (457) 850 17': 25': 36 35': 41 46': 5rold 8ch 700 43 57 66': 14 22 28':	Redisord — 360 23 32 364 24 13 164 (1778) 300 64 16 214 16 294 324 Refuyre — 180 194 224 264 04 44 7 (199) 200 5 10 154 04 13 154	Glatto W 900 321 51 62 25 451 571 (906) 950 13 30 40 681 76 861 HSBC 1050 76 961 116 321 49 631
(*725) 750 18 31', 42', 40 48 52', Sporebase	(*199) 200 5 10 15°, 6°, 13 15°, Testo	(*10994) 100 475 70 895 56 725 87 Resider 600 40 56 69 17 245 315 (*023) 850 165 315 445 43 51 57
Trafalgar 30 6 7, 9 7, 5 6 (23) 35 35 59 7 6 7, 9 Unilever 1350 50 65, 86 29 39 415	(*230*4 240 3*1 13*) 19* 13 18 22*1 Williams 330 14* 22 25*1 2 10*1 13 (*341) 360 1*1 7*2 11*2 19*2 29 30*1	Fecial Apr. Jul Des Apr. Jul Des Royal Ins 300 18 27: 30: 27: 30: 37
C13704) 1400 27, 40, 50 57, 66, 68 Zencol 1250 68 95 140 41 545 625 C12774) 1300 43 70 84 68 81 67,	FT-SE INDIEX (*3734) 3600 3650 3700 3750 3800 3850	(*901) 420 7: 10: 25: 44 50 55: Series Mar Jun Mar Jung Fisons
Series Feb May Ang Feb May Ang Grad Met 420 35% 47 56 1 6% 12 PSCN 400 8 22% 12% 15 22 28	Caffa Reb 146 102's 65 34 In 5 Mar 163's 125 90's 60's 38 22's	269 260 0 01 - 15 19 - Series FebMay FebMay
Tachenist 160 135 20 245 35 12 151 (164) 180 45 12 16 14 235 265	Apr 1744 1265 108 804 527 40 May 189 1554 124 97 14 55 Jun 208 — 142 — 914 —	Eastern Gp. 980 291 43 - 01 01 - (975) 1000 01 91 - 25 25 -
(2574) 260 Pr. 14 20h 8 1Pr. 20r.	Profes Peti 6 12': 3MA 45 78': 125 Mast 20 11A 47 68 90': 134':	ScriesMar Jun SepMar Jun Sep Nad Per 420 22 34': 31 8 18': 24 (*429') 460 6': 15 20': 32': 42 47
Insury 23, 1996 Teb 30009 Call: 18806 Part: 19263 FT-SE Call: 4397 Part 5787 "Underlying scentity price.	Apr 301 53 72 947 121': 155 May 501: had but 1001 136 had Just 66 — 98': — iiii —	Scot Pert 360 281 362 411 31 7 121 (1987) 390 10 181 242 15 191 261

· 一個 新原理學所以 2000年的 1000年中			T	:: <u>23,</u> = . = .	; "	
	Period	Open.	High	Low	No.	Vol.
FT-SE 100 Previous open Injures: 60677	Mar 96	3771.0 3772.0	3779.0 3772.0	3740.0 3766.0	3746.5	***
FT-SE 250 Previous open Interest: 3907	Mat 96 Jun 96				4100.0	. 0
Three Month Sterling Provious open interest: 394298	Mar 96 Jun 96 Sep 96	93.82 94.17 96.16	91.92 94.17 94.16	93,87 94,10 94,12	93.89 94.12 94.12	7425 11961 10163
Three Min Eurodollar Previous open interes: 0	Mar 96				94.66	0
Three Mith Euro OM Previous open Interes: 110007		95.72	95.74 95.87	96.69 96.60	96.71 96.84	2089L 21631
Long Gilt Previous-open insures: 147037	Mar 96 Jun 96	112-04 111-16	112-08 114-18	110-29 110-29	112-11 110-20	64208 620
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 96	118.20	119,63	119.69 138.17	119.78 118.26	3770 1137
German Gov Bd Bund Perfee open (merce 1461.0)	улт 40 96 тиг	101.32 100,61	(00.6) (0).36	100.72	100.83 100.10	175913 1207
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 22792	Mar 🐄 Jun 96	95.40 99.60	95.40 · 95.60	95.34 95.34	95.15 95.54	2079 1094
Petro Swiss Franc Pretous open Intense 3401	Mar 96	96.33 96.33	98.33	98.23 98.24	98.36	4960 4160
Italian Govert Bond Previous open Interest: 64297	Mar 96	112.25 112.20	112.20	111.10	111.49	60000 239
*						<u></u>
Base Rates: Clearing States Discount Market Louise Of Treasury Bills (DiskBuy: 1)	night high: t	l ₄	Low 6	6 ^j n ; 3 mt	Week fi	xed: 64
		-	3 water	6 mt		12 min
Prime Bank Rills (Db): Starling Money Rates		aran Grantin	6'w6's		511 ki -61a	6-6's
Interbuik: Overnight: open 6%, close 6.		t'e Ta	Sec.	€/w	-C ² m	5'0-0'4
Local Authority Depa: Sterling CDs:	dia diambia	n/a 0'40'a	61. 6161.u		6'n	6
Dollar CDs: Building Society CDs:	5.46 6°e-6'e	n/a Gu-Gu	5.35 MAGE		5.20 -6'n	· 5.12 6'æ-6'n
		1300		12.	- 6	1
		ati :	3 auth	6 m	他	Call
			5 - 5 ·		-5'a -3'a	4-3
Francis Francis	Par-41s 4	Pu-Pu '-1"6	45-45 15-15	4 ¹¹ 10	-1"=	· 54
Yes		ياليا	13-14		elle .	1/2
S SOLDERE					<u> </u>	
Bulliog: Open \$402.60-402.9 Love \$402.35-402.8			10 Hilgh PM: \$406	: \$407.00- .60	407.50	
Krugerrand: \$405,30-408.50	-	XX)				-
Platiawar: \$121.00 (£277.80)			Palladi	um: \$129	.00 (E85.	10)
STERLING		10 20		T. C.		
Mile Ranes for Jun 18 Amsterdam	08-2.5092	2.5041-	Close 2.5074	i mond		month 2-1'spr
Brussels4	5.91-45.09 130-8.6710	45,94	46.04	12 - 90	or 35	- 30pr
Dublin	88-0.9699	8.6440+ 0.9588+	0.9614	15-15p 10-7p	ar i	25-20pr
Frankfurt 2.23	25-2.2416 88-233.16	2,2385-1 232,54-1	2.2416 233.16	ZI - 476	5 62	141501 - 1260s
Madrki	54-189.27 6.5-2422.2	188.96- 2406.5-	189.24	39 - 480	ls 115	- 132ds - 21ds
Montreal	95-20874	2.0695	2.0724	7 - 9d 0.16-0.07p	0.29	+0.18oc
New York	34-1-5170 140-9.8200	1,5034- 9,7920-		0.11-0.09 1-1-1	nr 2	10.27pr
Paris 7.66	90-7,6950 173-10,471	7.6690-1 (0.373-	7,6830	1'-1	or 3	'-24pr
Tokyo	W-161-04	160,70-	160.96	-)r	! 24or
	(00-15.764 an-1.8(0)a	15.743 1.7978-	15.769 1.500	ۇرىپ ئامار	er T	l'align Z-liver
Source: Extel				un - pr.	Discout	





□ New arrivals face a tough task □ Confusion at the checkouts □ Bradford & Bingley sticks to its last

Pricking the gas bubble

ON any list of the worst jobs in British business, head of public relations at British Gas should be close to the top. But fighting it out for first place would be finance director at British Gas and that of the man who has to sort out the "gas bubble" and the arrival of

domestic competition.

All three posts are now filled.

although the British Gas announcement to that effect is somewhat disingenuous. The well-regarded Philip Hampton is arriving from British Steel as finance man, while his prede-cessor, Roy Gardner, looks after gas trading, including the matter of all that unwanted gas con-tracted from the North Sea, the now-discredited service business and competition.

Hm. Actually, when Mr Gardner took on these additional responsibilities in December he was always going to continue as finance director. The implication is that the job has proven more onerous than expected, which is hardly surprising. The pilot project to open the household market in the South West from April 1 is dogged by delays, and the company has pleaded in vain with the regulator for a breath-

THE THE STATE OF THE

Partie Share

A CAR BANK CONTRACTOR

ing space.

The gas bubble is a rather simpler matter, because if a solution to take-or-pay contracts is not found British Gas could go

bankrupt. What better man than the former finance director to

head off that day?
As to public relations, the John Wybrew who is arriving from Shell to tackle this as well as planning and marketing is the man who brought you Brent Spar and Ogoniland, so he is nothing if not battle-hardened.

The new arrivals will be considering an ingenious, if farfetched, solution to nearly all of their worries. On the file at British Gas's Rivermill House headquarters is the sale of the UK supply business, in response to the impending loss of monopoly in the household market.

Richard Giordano, the chair-man, is reluctant to take any decision while efforts to renegotiate those North Sea contracts continue. But the idea is that if these fail, the supply business could be split into its eight regional parts. These would be offered for sale either with gas purchase contracts from British Gas's wretched take-or-pay portfolio, or with back-to-back supply agreements so the company can act as wholesaler. Potential buyers would include North Sea oil and gas producers, many of which are already active in supplying the industrial and commercial gas market, and the regional electricity companies.

Until the enactment of the Gas Act 1995, disposal would have been impossible because British Gas had a statutory duty to maintain gas supplies. But that Act, which paves the way for competition, paradoxically al-lows the company to sell just those activities it is designed to

open up to outsiders.
Purchasers would be attracted by the enormous customer base of the businesses, and they might be able to renegotiate the take-or-pay contracts more easily than British Gas — particularly if they are themselves gas producers.

Grocery bills that never add up

☐ ANYONE struggling through the weekly food shop knows full well that the supermarket price wars rage with ever greater aggression and ingenuity. But this fact of domestic life seems to PENNINGTON



be lost on the statisticians. According to the official figures. food prices saw one of the biggest rises of any sector in 1995. Surely loyalty cards, "buy two, get one free" offers, privilege points and the rest are having their effect on inflation? Probably not, is the improbable answer.

Measuring prices is enor-mously difficult, and there is evidence to suggest that the retail prices index is not nimble enough to take account of the new marketing weapons being ranged at today's shoppers.

A study from Natwest Markets points out, for example, that two-for-one deals don't count in the official figures. If the size of a standard can of beans were doubled and this lasted for a few

Prospect

strikes

£21m loss

PROSPECT Industries, the

supplier of specialist engi-

neering services to the pow-

er-generation industry.

incurred pre-tax losses of £21.3 million last year

Losses for the 12 months

to September 30 were re-

corded after total exception-

al charges of £18 million.

including goodwill written off of £7 million, after a year

of widespread restructuring. In addition, there has

been a downward adjust-

ment of £9.4 million to asset

values after the appoint-

ment of new management. Pre-tax profits in 1994 were £5.9 million and

earnings were 2.35p. The

loss per share last year was

7.24p. There is a nominal final dividend of 0.025p a

share, making a total of

0.125p (0.85p).

(Martin Barrow writes).

months, its price in the index would be halved. But if the consumer buys two cans and gets one free, there is deemed to be no price change. In the case of loyalty cards, the statisticians take no account of the free goods bought with points earned. Bonus goods are counted as income transferred from companies to people, and no price savings are registered in the RPI.

Even more dramatic is the fact that computers, whose prices have tumbled as their quality has risen, are not counted in the RPI until next year. But sales of computers and software (also excluded from the index) were the boom items at Christmas. It is arguable that the real level

of high street inflation could be as much as 1 to 1.5 per cent lower than recorded by the RPI. This means that, if the Government were to attain its goal of 2.5 per cent, consumers would be enjoying virtual price stability. And just remember that the supermarket price wars are only part of a dynamic competitive domino effect. We have already seen price battles break out in mobile phones, books, petrol, holidays,

insurance, hi-fi...the list goes on. Keeping up to speed with all this is the statistician's night-mare and the consumer's dream.

A borrower or a lender be

☐ BRADFORD & Bingley's unilateral trimming of its mortgage and lending rates may be only another skirmish in the endless war between building societies for savers and borrowers, but it does set out the strengths of the

The B&B says that profit, while not being intrinsically bad, is the fuel that drives the engine rather than the destination itself. Cash should not be allowed to pile up when it can instead be used to the advantage of investors and borrowers.

Without the release of £50 million of profits a year to members, the solvency ratio that the society is required to maintain would eventually climb to unnecessary heights. That ratio, expressed as the size of the reserves held divided by the

below 10 per cent. At the Bradford & Bingley, it is cur-rently 14 per cent, and without some redistribution it would shortly have reached 18 per cent. For societies heading down the road to conversion to ple and bank status, those reserves and that ratio would eventually, of course, be slimmed by the need of fund dividends.

For those who have insisted they will retain mutual status, the release of some profits to members has a twin advantage. It enables them to provide keener rates. In addition, by shrinking those reserves it reduces the number of "carpet-baggers" who park themselves on the books in the hopes of eventual payouts from them on demutualisation.

Two-way bet

☐ YESTERDAY'S jump in the Granada price, after a trading statement that was never going to be downbeat, takes the shares right back to where they were in November. So institutions such as MAM which bought both sides during the bid have done rather well, seeing the value of their Granada stake restored while being given the chance. via the cash and shares alternative in the Forte bid, to buy into Granada quite cheaply. And MAM, of course, swung the bid

New WH Smith chief plans strategic review

THE corporate culture at WH Smith, the retail group, is completely wrong and must be changed if it is to compete effectively in the tough trading environment. Bill Cockburn, chief execu-

over as chief executive on

January 2, said: "There is a culture of excuses, a culture of

product." Mr Cockburn's remarks came as he reported a

spend and £4.3 million to cover redundancy costs. In an attempt to restore its

flagging fortunes, Mr Cockburn is undertaking a thorough strategic review of the entire group, which encompasses 549 high street WH Smith stores, 317 Virgin/Our Price outlets, a 98-strong chain of Waterstone's bookstores as well as Do-It-All, a newspaper and magazine distribution business, and an office supplies operation.

Mr Cockburn said that he would complete his review by late spring and that it would focus particularly on the cost base. He said: "Everything is being reviewed. Nothing is being ruled out."

Analysts said that they hoped the group would sell or close Do-It-All, the DIY joint venture with Boots.

The company has never officialy offered the chain for sale, but few analysts believe that a buyer would have been turned away if one had emerged. As a result, closure is considered the more likely of the two routes, in spite of the resulting costs and strain on the balance sheet such a move would incur. Jeremy Hardie, chairman.

said that the sales performance of the group's constituent parts were encouraging. but the profit performance was unsatisfactory, mainly due to margin erosion resulting from an increasingly competitive market place and higher labour costs".

ever, the periods are not directly comparable as this vear includes the a busy pre-Christmas trading week, replacing a less busy week in May. He said that, in the main. the group's Christmas trading performance was

The interim dividend, payable on April I, was held at 5.25p. It is being paid out of earnings of 4p. down from 11.2p last time. The shares

sharp fall in pre-tax profits from £51.2 million to £26.6 complacency, and a culture of explaining on the night why we haven't done what we said million in the 31 weeks to we would do." January 6. He added: "There is not Profits were dented by extra enough accountability and an costs of £19.8 million, includ-Mr Cockburn, who took ing £9.1 million for increased attitude that seems to accept advertising and promotional mediocrity in areas such as

Sir Richard Greenbury saw sales rise but not by enough to impress analysts

M&S downgraded over Christmas performance

MARKS & SPENCER vesterday revealed that it had failed to maintain its customary outperformance of its rivals in the high street over the critical Christmas period.

news was not worse.

M&S, under the chairmanship of Sir Richard

Bankers Trust

settles claim

BANKERS TRUST, the US bank, has agreed to pay \$67 million to Air Products and

Chemicals to settle a claim

over \$107 million losses on

derivatives products through

fraudulent deals in the early

paid \$14 million to Gibson Greetings and \$12 million to

Federal Paper Board, as well

as a \$10 million fine to the

Securities & Exchange

MIDC Private Traders Go Live

Announcing the opening of Market Data Centre's private

Telephone 0171 522 0094 for a prochure that includes a free

Market Data Centre Ltd. 19-21 Great Tower Street, London EC3R 5AD.

Tel: 0171 522 0094 Fax: 0171 522 0095

A professional trading screen on flexible terms. Access to over 800 books, journals, and videos

client dealing room on 29th January.

This unique facility offers individuals:

introductory two hour session

المداحات فالصابح المستأنك فيصوره المارات المسابق المستقيل

on all trading topics.

Bankers Trust has already

A LEADING City watchdog

vesterday sent a clear signal to

its members that directors and

executives are responsible for

The Securities and Futures

Authority (SFA), the regulator

for brokers and futures deal-

ers, fined Panmure Gordon

E50,000 with £10,000 costs

and issued a formal "severe

reprimand". The case arose

the actions of their staff.

M&S said that over the three months, food sales rose 4.5 per cent and general merchandise sales increased 4.8 per cent. However, clothing sales were dented by the exceptionally mild autumn. Analysts had expected lack-

France had suffered.

after Jeremy Gray, a former

fund manager's assistant in

the firm's private client de-

partment, stole more than £3

million from two clients in

Panmure Gordon, which

alerted the SFA to the fraud,

has compensated the investors

Last October, Gray was sent

to prison for six years at London's Snaresbrook Crown

court on counts of theft, false

accounting and handling sto-

Lord McGowan, chairman

of Panmure Gordon, said:

We very much regret the fine

and reprimand. As our regula-

tor, we have to accept the

SFA's ruling and support its actions, which we do."

The SFA said: "This is an

indication that we expect our

members to exercise proper

checks and controls over inter-nal procedures that make any

potential fraud more difficult

in full for their losses.

len goods.

to commit."

Warning from SFA in

Panmure Gordon fine

By ROBERT MILLER

Wells Fargo wins US bank battle

AMERICA'S biggest bank takeover battle has been won by Wells Fargo, which won control of First Interstate after a three-month fight with First Bank Systems, a rival bidder

(Richard Thomson writes). First Interstate, based in Los Angeles, capitulated to the \$11.6 billion Wells Fargo bid yesterday, after its friendly agreement to merge with First Bank Systems, of Minneapo-lis, collapsed.

Wells Fargo's victory is the first hostile bid to succeed in the US banking sector since the late 1980s. The bid dwarfed the \$10 billion merger agreed between Chemical Bank and Chase Manhattan

last August. The merged bank, to be called Wells Fargo, will be the eighth largest in the US with assets of \$108 billion.

First Interstate attempted to escape Wells's clutches by agreeing a deal with FBS, but this fell through last weekend.

MMC chief calls for direct OFT referrals

PINANCIALEDITOR

THE Director-General of Fair Trading should be able to refer mergers directly to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, Graeme Odgers. MMC chairman. suggests in his annual report.

In carefully chosen words, Mr Odgers says that the present system, under which the President of the Board of Trade decides after advice from the Director-General. "introduces a political input at too early a stage of the

regulatory process". Reform of competition law is necessary, Mr Odgers writes. But the MMC chairman takes a more cautious view than Sir Bryan Carsberg. the former head of the the Office of Fair Trading. He writes: "I am concerned that enthusiasm for reform should



Odgers: "political input"

not sweep away much that is good in our present system." Merging the MMC into the OFT could provide greater consistency. Mr Odgers concedes, but could also undermine the present openeness of the system and make the OFT too powerful. MMC investiga-

publication of its report, along with evidence given by the parties. OFT decisions are conducted on a discreet basis, sometimes with little explanation of conclusions.

Mr Odgers also has doubts about plans broadly backed by the Labour Party to make anti-competitive behaviour illegal and subject to civil actions. He says blanket rules would make it harder to establish what was an abuse and therefore harder for regulators to promote competition.

Frequent court cases "may not be best suited to resolving economic issues related to market definition, dominance and abuse of dominance". But he backs changes, promised by the Government, to strengthen the power of the OFT over restrictive practices and ban suspected restricted practices until investigated.

Group sales rose from £1.22 By SARAH BAGNALL billion to £1.35 billion, how-

The news prompted analysts to downgrade their fullyear profit forecasts for the retailer. However, the cuts were less deep than analysts had pencilled in ahead of the figures. The shares rose 4p to 439p, reflecting relief that the

Greenbury, saw UK sales rise 6.5 per cent in the five weeks to December 30, helping to lift sales in the three months to the end of the year by 4.7 per

Sean Eadle, an analyst at NatWest Securities, said: "The figures are pretty dull. This reflects retailing as a whole, but one expects Marks & Spencer to outperform the sector." He estimated that of the 4.7 per cent advance in sales, about three percentage points were due to increased

lustre clothing figures, but the growth in food sales was disappointing. M&S disclosed mixed fortunes overseas. It said that Brooks Brothers and Kings Super Markets sales were progressing, while those in

remained unchanged at 407p.

Tempus, page 26

Where is the best place to go for instant Share Dealing? British Britis

Sell your shares at any of NatWest's 280 Instant Share Dealing branches and you'll normally find the money in the account of your choice 5 working days later. There's no need to send paperwork through the post or wait for a cheque to be sent to you.

Whether you're selling or buying, simply walk in, check the latest share price, and walk out minutes later with confirmation of the deal in your hand. It's as quick and easy as that.

You don't even have to bank with NatWest either." Just bring in some identification confirming your name.

signature and permanent address such as a full UK driving licence (and your share certificates, if selling), and you too can enjoy the convenience of Instant Share Dealing in over 900 leading shares, including

Call 0800 200 400 WEEKDAYS 8,00cm to 8,00cm WEEKENDS 9.00cm to 4.00pm

PowerGen and National Power.

For details of your nearest Instant Share Dealing branch, and our competitive dealing charges, please call

NatWest More than just a bank

*Customers who don't bank with NotWest will have to pay by cheque when buying shares. Please bear in mind that the value of stock market in LUSTOPHERS WHILD COURT WITH THE PROPERTY WHEN COUNTY TO PROPERTY WHEN COUNTY THROUGH IN THE COUNTY WHEN COUNTY WHEN THE COUNTY STOCK MARKET



Standard Chartered on bid alert as shares soar

on bid alert again last night as its share price surged 432 p to a new high of 662p. Turnover in the shares was low, with less than 3 million changing hands, although the word is that Gartmore, the fund manager, and at least one American institution were trying to pick-up stock.

Brokers say that much of the rise could be attributed to stock shortages on the part of market-makers. But one thing the company was not short of yesterday was potential suitors. Weekend reports had suggested a bid from rival National Westminster Bank up 6p at 674p.
It is a story that most

traders in the stock have been quick to discount. However, other names have now started to feature, including Deutsche Bank, which already owns Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, and Dresdner which last year splashed out £500 million-plus for Kleinwort Benson.

A Standard spokesman said: "We have no information and would not comment on market rumours."

Elsewhere, the market continued its record-breaking run, cheered by a strong start to trading on Wall Street. Hopes are high that next week's meeting of the Federal Reserve Open Markets Committee will signal a cut in US interest rates.

The FT-SE 100 index closed at its best of the day with a rise of 23.2 to a new high of 3.758.2. As the dust continues to settle after Granada's successful bid for Forte, investors began looking around for other companies in the sector in which to invest. Top of the list was Ladbroke, which responded with a rise of 8½p to 1724p. The shares have been supported in recent months by talk of a possible bid from Bass, 4p dearer at 736p. Rank Organisation was

another beneficiary of the flow of funds out of Forte, adding 7p at 451p. It also drew strength from some encouraging trading news from Rank

Sir Rocco Forte's pledge to rebuild the family business from scratch did not fall on deaf ears. The family is reckoned to be set to pick up £300 million from the sale of their ploughed into a new venture.

| Series Feb May Aug Feb May Aug | Feb May A



Signs of a building recovery were provided by Alfred McAlpine

262p, and MyKinda Town. up 12p at 132p. Marks & Spencer, the subject of some high-profile criticism recently, perked up with 2 3p rise to 438p after an encouraging trading state-ment. General sales over the Christmas period grew 6.7 per cent, with food sales 6.1 per

90p on the news that rival Bellway has bought close to a 5 per cent stake. This has raised hopes that Bellway may be poised to make a full bid. Only ast week, Wainhomes plunged to 65p after revealing that it was the subject of an investigation by the fraud squad over valuation irregularities at its northern division Burton Group, which is dating back to last year.

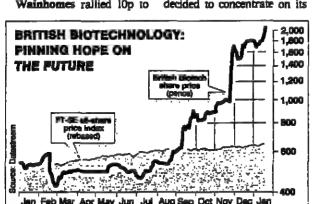
Lonrho fell 32p to 2012p despite news that Ashanti, in which it has a 41 per cent stake, has applied for a listing on the New York Stock Exchange. Shareholders at Ashanti's AGM in Ghana were told the move would raise its international profile. Ashanti s one of The Times mining shares of the year.

due to issue a trading statement today, finished 2p lighter at 129½ p.

News of two boardroom appointments had little effect on the price of British Gas shares, down up to 248up. Philip Hampton has been appointed finance chief, with John Wybrew director responsible for strategic planning and corporate affairs.

Wainhomes rallied 10p to Two employees have been sacked and another two suspended. The board also called for the resignation of Ron Smith, chief executive, claiming they had lost confidence in him following the latest profits

warning. Signs of a long-awaited recovery in the housebuilding sector were also provided by Alfred McAlpine, which has decided to concentrate on its



housing activities. The group vesterday announced plans to close its open tender construction business at a cost of £34 million. Despite this, the shares rose 10p to 158p.

Earlier this week, the Berkeley Group, another housebuilder, unveiled plans to raise £73 million in order to take advantage of depressed prices and increase the size of its land bank.

British Biotechnology soared to yet another new peak with a leap of 198p to £21.68. Investors are becoming increasingly excited about the prospects for Marimastat, its new cancer treatment, which is currently undergoing trials. James Crean stood out with

a leap of 30p to 243p. Inishtech, a company in which Crean has a 71.2 per cent stake, has received a bid approach at a significant premium to the current bid price. News of an encouraging

drilling report hoisted Cairn Energy 35'2p to 179'2p as almost 5 million shares changed hands. The group says that its Sangu-l exploration well in Block 16 offshore of Bangla-

denth. A testing programme is now underway and the rig will move to a new position 3.5 miles north of Sangu-I. Cairn holds 75 per cent of Block I6.

☐ GILT-EDGED: Prices traded in a narrow range for much of the day, with buying interest muted ahead of next week's meeting of the FOMC

The Bank of England was on hand to issue further tranches of existing stock, including £150 million of Treasury Index-linked 43 per cent 2004 and £100 million of Treasury Index-linked 21/2 per cent 2013.

and gift auction.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt traded in a range of £1112532 and £112332 before finishing £316 better at £1113132. A total of 57,000 contracts were completed. in the cash market. Treasury 8 per cent 2013 climbed E710 to £1032, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per

cent 2000 was £732 better at £1051532. ☐ NEW YORK: Shares were strong at midday, with the Dow Jones industrial average up 51.30 points at 5,243.57 the budget deadlock, a strong bond market and a raily in many high-technology issues.

Hong Kong: Amsterdam: Sydney: Frankfurt 2423.07 (+38.60) Singapore 2410.25 (-22.75) Brussels General CAC-40. 1945.97 (+11.89) Zurich London FT 30 FT 100 .. 3758.2 (+23.3) FT-SE MID 250 406.9 (+14.5) FT-SE-A 350 1863.9 (+10.5) FT-SE Eurotrack 100 1540.68 (+11.49) FT A All-Share FT Non Fluoridals FT Flord Inneres FT Govt Sets 1837.17 (+9.95) . 1931.54 (+8.44) ... 114.73 (-0.01) ... 83.1 (+O.1) Bank of England official close (4pm) L:SDR 10353 RPI 150.7 Dec (3.2%) Jan 1987=100 RPIX 149.6 Dec (3.0%) Jan 1987=100

MAJOR NOICES

New York (midday): 5243.57 (+51.30)

... 618.13 (+5.34)

Ballynatray Hidgs Century Inns 113 75

RECENTISSIES

Cox Insurance Jupiter Spilit Can Jupiter Split Units Nunn Petim Wrps Revelation Picc SkyePharma B Wrts desh is now operating at total

RIGHTS ISSUES

Berkeley Gp n/p (435) 49 Eleco Holdings n/p (28) 4 Persona n/p (225) SWP Group n/p (24) 14 SkyePharma n/p (4) Western Sel n/p (14)

MAJOR CHANGES
RISES: Wanhomes
Superscape VR
A McAlpine
Menvier-Swein
Fibronic Com
Rediand
FALLS: 9335p (-49p)
Betwey 250p (-6p)

Norbain

376p (+12p) 555p (+15p) 280p (+10p)	
933'sp (-49p) 250p (-49p) 457p (-13p) 600p (-17p) 533p (-10p) 575p (-8p) 444p (-9p) rices Page 29	
STEEL SECTION 1	_

Who pays for the bids?

longer tolerate inefficiencies.

Yesterday, the stock mar-ket patted Alfred McAlpine

on the back for being the first

big quoted builder to shut

down its traditional building

operations. McAlpine is shrinking the company

down to the housing division

and civil engineering opera-tions plus a specialised unit

will invest in PFI

Granada's takeover of Forte. The total figure — in the region of £135 million — is a big number, but in itself says nothing about the larger question of whether takeovers ever justify their costs. Granada's own £105 million bill looks huge, but £20 million represents stamp duty and a further £70 million relates to underwriting costs.

Underwriting is a method of insuring against the fall in value of shares issued to finance an offer. The OFT and the London Business School have rightly criticised high underwriting fees: these fixed charges are often unrelated to specific company risks, but underwriting per se is no more of a cost to

society than general insurance. Academics are divided over whether bids enhance shareholder value. However, there is no clear evidence that costs are increasing. According to Acquisitions Monthly, fees paid for takeovers in the 1989 boom were £800

MPs and others are in a flap about the costs of million, 2.8 per cent of the £28 billion value of the offers, compared with £950 million of fees, 2.6 per cent of offers last year.

More worthy of criticism are the advisory bills accumulated by Forte. Granada will inherit some £30 million of fees charged by sundry merchant bankers and lawyers, more than twice the cost of its own advisers. Bidders must budget carefully if they are not to squander the benefits of a takeover, but targets have no such discipline and, like Forte, can hire armies of advisers knowing that failure simply means handing the bill to the aggressor. More galling to shareholders is the knowledge that Forte could certainly have avoided its fate and great expense, had it taken good advice earlier and made the disposals it proposed during the bid.

Philips

fit >5

Here.

- T

Explosive Acres

o leg

國際語

œi-

In future, if investors are not prepared to take the initiative and demand the removal of lazy bosses, they will continue to pay for

projects, such as roads, hos-

pitals and other local authority schemes. McAlpine's

move will stem huge losses,

but there is a question mark over whether it has the

strength and cashflow to

expand housing and PFI

projects that demand capital injections. The company is

better placed, but may still

need a big brother.

MCALPINE LEAVES THE BUILDING

Feb Mer Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan

Alfred McAlpine

IF THE chairmen of building companies were as brave as their words, the industry's problems could be solved overnight However, wailing about overcapacity is easier than trimming your sails. Many companies prefer to subsidise their contracting arms from profitable aggregates or homes operations rather than take on the dirty iob of closures and sackings. The ostrich approach is about to change, however,

for two reasons. Builders struggled with thin margins for years, relying on the cashflow from pre-payments

to keep the business ticking over. Profits were a happy accident from successful claims for cost-overruns. Today, cashflow is turning negative as margins are too thin to cover costs and the economics of the industry no

WH Smith ADMISSION of a problem is often the first crucial step towards recovery, and, hopefully, WH Smith is no

Bill Cockburn is right to identify a culture problem at the group. Retailing is not a picnic aggressive rivals have eaten into W H Smith's core business, and the group's gentlemanly response has proved lamentably inept. It is too early to tell

whether Cockburn will succeed in sweeping out the cobwebs and cosy culture. but he is making the right noises

Yesterday's interim results revealed both new and old problems: poor distribution meant that stores were left with the wrong stock and extra costs over the critical tion has forced the group to

sales. Elsewhere, the trading environment has hurt WH Smith in several areas - new contracts with publishers have eaten away at newspaper distribution margins, while the demise of the net book agreement means that Waterstone's has to sell three discounted books rather than

two just to stand still. Cockburn has yet to complete his strategic review. Nothing is ruled out and a further restructuring charge is not out of the question. especially as Cockburn has stated he intends to remove more cost from the group.

For now there is little

besides rhetoric on which to judge the group's fortunes, and the shares are best left alone until Cockburn reveals

Wainhomes

instant profit from its pur-chase of shares in Wainhomes. Wainhomes's share price took an excessive beating last week when the police moved in to investigate "accounting irregularities". The chairman sacked the chief executive for an alleged "loss of confidence" and the price plunged to 64p. Whatever the hit to profits from a restatement of work in progress, analysts still reckon that the net asset value of the builder

ought to be worth up to 94p. Those builders still committed to the homes market are looking for quick ways to build up stock, and takeovers are an obvious route: but no one should expect a hostile bid for Wainhomes; the management still control 42 per cent of the company. With land prices now more reasonable, sensible builders will

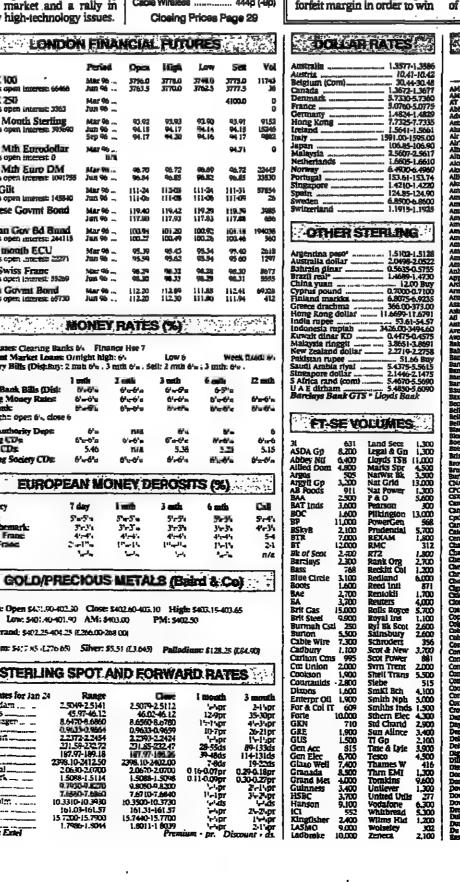
EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

ups for Pizza Express, lp up at	Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul	Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan
	COMMODITIES	fall activities that the
LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE	ICIS-LOR (Louise AARpm) CRUDE OILS 6/Jurnel POR	GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES WHEAT BAILLEY
COCOA	Brent Physical	tclose 5/g
4ay 911-910 May 1030-1029 4ay 934-933 Jul Unq	Brent 15 day (Mar)	Mar
el 957-955 Scp	W Texas Intermediate (Mar) 18.25 +0.15	[Jul 25.40 Jep 107.00
ep 974-973 Dec	W Texas Intermediate (Apr) 17.85 +0.10	Sep 111.50 Nev 109.50 Nev 12.60 Jan 110.75
lar (015-1012 Volume: 6)70	PRODUCTS \$/MT)	Volume 417 Volume 65
MOBUSTA COPPEE OF	Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery) Premium Gas .15 B. 164 (-1) Q: 167 (-1)	POTATO (E/6 Open Close
in 1965-1930 Sep 1635-1630 lar 1907-1909 Nov 1640-1620	Gasoil EEC 160 (-1) 162 (n/c)	Mar unq 200.0
lay	Non EEC H Feb 158 (-1) 161 m/c	Apr 184 0 182.8 May 800 210.0
i (661-1660	Non EEC (H Mar (58 +1) 161 (n/c) 35 Feel Oil 94 -2 96 +2	Volume 90
WHITE SUGAR (FOR)	35 Food Oil 94 (-2) 96 (-2) Naphtho 166 (-1) 170 (-2)	RUBBER (No I RSS Cal a/ki
vs: 375.0 Dec 300.9-49.5	IPE FUTURES IGNI LAD	Fab 105-00-105-50
ar 361 0-60.0 Mar 300.3-97 5	GAS OIL	
r 348 0-47.5 May 293.2-45.5 ac 113 0-32.5 Volume: 367	Feb 155.25-55.50 May 149.25-47.75 Mar 153.50-53.75 Jun 146.25-48.50	BIFFEX (GNT Lat \$10/pg High Low Clies
	Apr 151,50-51,75 Vol: 14731	Jan 96 1510 1500 1510
MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION	BRENT 65.00pm	Feb % 1435 (440 (430) Mar % 1435 (430)
	Mar 17-03-17-04 Jun 16-26-16-30	Apr 96 IANO 1430 1440
Average fustock prices at representative markets on January 23	May _ 16.42-16.44	Vol: 371 lots Open laterast: 45.13
/lug hot Pig Sheep Cattle	May Mara-10-11 TUE ATTENTION	LINEAL 1300 THE
B:	(Official) (Volume prev day) LONDON	METAL EXCHANGE Rudel Well
64/96/145;104.37	Copper Gde A (5'101070) Chells: 2527 0-	2529.0 Small: 2491.0-2492.0 Vol.: 1587450
(*/-) +4.45 +3.67 +2.36 (%) +12.0 +16.0 -4.0	Lead (\$'tonne! 727.00- Zinc Spec HI Gde (\$'tonne) _ 1029.0-	728.00 721.00-722.00 202725 1029.5 1051.0-1052.0 288675
codand: 192.30 121.65 124.52	Tin (\$/10/mei 6285.0-	6290.0 6315 0-6320.0 14790
+ - - 95	Nickel (\$400me)	
	LIFFE OPTIONS	
Can Page	Calls Pos	Cells Pass
Series Apr Jul Oct Apr Jul Oct	Series Apr. Int. Oct Apr. Jul. Oct.	Series Mar Jun Sep Mar Jun Sep
(MT (785) 900 W7 46 52", 9 15", 19 525") 550 (2", 20 20 31", 41", 45	BAA 460 45', \$3 50', J', 9 11', P\$86', 900 :8 27', 35', 16 25', 27	Abby Not. 650 23- 36 45- 28- 38 46- (1951) 700 6- 18 36- 65- 72 78
gv() 330 25'1 32 39'1 7', 15'1 15	Tharnes W. 500 SP. 58 60. Y. 15 171	Amerad 180 20 20 31 317 64 10 12
44) 360 10's 17 23 22's 31's 34 DA 100 11 14 16 2's 4's 3's	P539-1 550 18 28 31 R1 39 42	Barriage 750 45': 56 49 14 36 35'.
9% 110 % 9 10° 7 9 10	Sintes Poli May Aug Feb May Aug	[17783's] 800 16's 31 44 40's 50's 59
CIS 550 56 66 71 4 10's 14's	BAT Ind 550 351 455 155 4 16 355 (CS79) 600 7: 18- 25: 25 45 55	Ring Circ 530 26 30 364 5, 16 10 17547) 360 9 15, 22 19, 12 35
97) 600 23 33 40% 19% 29 34* Altragra, 500 37 46 52% 4°, 18% 21%	RTR 330 % 19, 19, 4 13, 166	Br Gas 240 16 19. 25 6 14 16.
20°a 550 ilir 20°: 28° 35 43°: 47°	P334) 3x0 0+ 3+ 8 25 35 364	(12485) 200 et 115 16 155 255 20
F	(1967) 900 11's 39's 56 40's 61 10's	Pixoris 390 36 48 54 5 111 17 17 19171 420 18 301 37 161 24 30
Steel 160 125 16 17: 5 10 12	Br Telcon 360 13. 23 30. 3. 3. 1.	Forne 390 (0% (0° 14 9° 13 13)
65 (80 4 7 8: 17 22: 24	(*369*s) 300 Z 8: 15': 21': 25 33'. Cadbary 500 45 51: 62 Z: 13: 14	(797) 420 0': 6': 4 27': 33: 34 Tattrac
& W 420 38 45 53 81 161 144, 1 440 460 16 251 33 27 361: 39	(*541) 550 (05 22) 35 (E) 36 41's	PIOS 110 5 4, IN 6 P. LT.
600 425 51 50 18 24 32.	Granness - 460 26 34 41 2 12: 17 February 500 4: 13 21: 20: 34 36:	Hillsdown 160 20 22: 24 1 4 7
629m 650 15% 26% 34% 47 52 59% 3 600 41% 56 64% 23% 32 41	GEC 330 30 Mr; 43 I 5 10	190 7 10 124 64 13 16 LONGTHO 200 7 13 18 84 17 14
\$26) 850 (6 52 40°s 52 57° 68	1*3581 260 8 19 24 9 16 25	[PODP4 220 1's 6 10's 22's 24', 26
ingfish: 500 46 52 57. 7. 17 31%	Haruss 191 16 0	Sears 90 10 115 125 1 25 50
5339 550 161 201 341 34 42 461 and 5ct . 400 551 62 641 2 . 10 12:	LASMO 160 12 164 214 2 54 71	Thorn 1600 84':128 (53 24', 44 67'
2010 Sec . 420 554 52 647 2. 10 (2) 645) 650 20, 27; 12, 17 31; 34;		
THE PARTY OF THE P	P169's 180 25 75 13 12 155 19	(1642), 1700 34 76) 100°, 75 43', 116.
46.5 9 15 31 20 32 37 39 49 49 37 37 37 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39	C169' 180 2'. 7'. 13 12 15'. 15 Lucas 200 7 13 18'. 5 10'. 13'. C202) 220 1 5 10 18'. 22'. 25	[(1642-)

97°: 146 112°: 153 135 170 148°: 183°: — 194

-- 420 23 35 392 7; 17; 23 460 6 15; 21 30 40; 45; - 360 27; 36 41 3; 8 13 394 6; 16 24 19; 20 27

LOND	DK EW	ANCIAI	-FUT	URES			
	Period		l Ggd.	Low	Sex	Vol	Att
FT-SIE 100 Previous open innerest: 6640	Mar 96 . 5 Jun 96 .	3796.0 3763.5	3778L0	3744L0 3762.5	3775.5 3777.5	11743 36	Bel
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 1360	Mar 96 .	III,			4100.0	0	Dei Fra Gei
Three Month Sterling Previous open incress: 39%		9LIS	91,93 94,17 94,30	9190 944 946	93.97 94.15 94.17	91,52 1,5246 1982	Ho
Three Mih Eurodolla Previous open interest 0		٠.	*****	PLIG	94.71	0	Jap Ma
Three Mith Euro DM Previous open interest 1091	Mar In .	96.70	96.72 96.85	96.50 96.52	96.72 96.85	22445 33530	No.
Long Güt Previous open imment: 1450	Mar 96. 40 Jun 96.		115-03 111-03	111-24 111-06	111-31 111- 0 9	57654 25	Sin Spe Swi
Japanese Govmt Bon	Jen 96 .	117.00	119.42 117.93	119.29 117.83	119.39 117.88	J985 656	Sw
German Cov 8d Bun Previous open mures: 2441	15 Jun 96 .	100.27	100.49	100.93	100.46	194036 560	13
Three month ECU Previous open interest 225 Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 96 . 1 Jun 96 . Mar 96 .	95.50	95.62 95.62	95.54 95.54 96.28	95.40 95.60	2618 1297 8673	Alt Alt Bal
Prenous open (merest: 552) Italian Govern Bond	9 Jun 96. Mar 96.	- 98.30 - 112.20	96.33 (12.69	96.29 96.29	96.31	5555 6912h	Bra Chi Cyr
Previous apen, Laurest 6571		112-20	112.30	111.80	111.94	412	FID Gre Ho
1.00	MONEY	RATES	(%)		: 67	ere de la companya de	Ind
Base Rates Clearing Bar	iks iv. Final	nce Hee 7					Ma Ne
Discount Market Loans: Treasury Bills (Dist:Bus:	Ornight high	1:6%	Low 6 It: 2 mile		Week II	MICHAEL PRINT	Pal
) onth	Inth	3 meth	6 040		12 mit	Sin S A
Prime Bank Bills (Dis): Sterling Money Rates	0'-0's	6'46's	6-6-	6-5	۵۰ <u>۵</u>	6'2-6'n	U A Ba
Stering Money Kans: Interbank Overnight: Open 6's, dose	6-6V	Ç,b-Ç,a Ç,r-Q,u	0.40			0,5-0,# 0.5-0.9	
Local Authority Dept	6'n	na.	W.		y-		L
Sering CDs Dellar CDs	6 16 1a 5.46	17/A	6-4- 5 <u>.4</u>		25	5.15	31 AS
Building Society CDE	6'er6's	6°t-6°u	6.6.			Øz-Øn	AD
EUROP	EAN MO	NEY D	POS	ITS (%)	11. c. 15. in	ATE AB BA
Currency	7 day	l made	3 esth	6 au	_	Cil	BA' BO
Dollar: Deutschemark:	SuSu SeSu	5°=5°= 3°=3°=	5'r54 3'r34			9c4's 4c3's	BP
French Franci Swiss Franci	4':-4': 2':-1":0	41-41.	والهيال) والهيال]	41:	44	5-4	BI
Your Transport	ود`` احو، تي پدلسورا	20mg/d	وسرا وسرا	1'-		2-1 n/a	ST Sk Bai
GOLD/PRI	ECIOUS	METAL	8 (B)	ind &	Co)		Bas Blu Box
Bullion: Open \$431.90-40			0 High	5403. 15-4	03.65		BA BA Bri
Low: \$401.40401 Krugerrand: \$402.25-404		-	PM: 5402	150			Bri Bu Bu
Platinom: \$4;7 x5 (L276 6	5) Silver: \$5	5.51 (E3.645)	Pallad	ium: \$128.	25 (E.S.L.)	90)	Cal
STERLING	SPOT A	ND FO	RWAJ	RD RA	res		CE
Mist Rates for Jan 24	Range		Cier:	i moati		mouth	Db En
Brussels	5049-2.5)4) 45.97-46.12	2.5079- 46.02	46.12	12-9p		2-14pr 35-30pr	Fo:
Copenhager 8	.6470-8.6860 .9633-0.9664	8.6560 0.9633	8.0780	15-150	г 4	יים אינים ו	GX
Franklin 2	2372-2.2454	2,2393-	1.2424	10.45t		36-21pr '-1:pr	GR GU
Mad:13	71.58-232.72 97.97-189.18	231.85 187.97	166.26	1-1-pi 28-55ds 39-48ds	8	7-133ds i	Ge
Milar 239	3.10-3412.50 0630-2.0700	2398.10-3 2.0670-	102.00	7-80s 0 (6-0.07p)	, 1	F131ds 19-22ds	Gla
New York	5088-15114	1.5088-	1.5098	0 i i 0.09 ₀₁	1 0.30	0.18pr -0.27pr	Gr. Gr.
Paris	7930-7.E270 1650-7.6660	9.80504 7.67 (0-	.6640	اوران 191-191		r-lupr	Gu
Stockholm 10.3	310-10.3930 51.03-161.57	10.3500-1	3.3730	(erlad)		ا علاليا	Ha
Vienca	200-15.7900	15.7410-1	5.7700	יירי, יין דעייים`	_	!'-2'-pr !''pr	ICI Kir
Zurich 1	.7986-1.3044	1.6011-	1 0039	1 _{e-14} pr	r	2-1 ior	LA





Grys Energy Co
Owens Curning
FFIH Corp
FFG Industries
FFG Energy
F Peter Sensor Pennsy Oci Pennsy Branch Mayris Philips Per Pinney Bown Polarold Processor Provides Particles Provides Particles Provides Particles Provides Particles Provides Provides Particles Provides Provide

the scheme was investors' use of bulletin boards on the

Another less ambitious

scheme promised "a whop-

ping 20 per cent rate of return from a very low

risk" investment in cel farm-

ing. More successful was the

offer of an investment that

would double investors'

money in four months

through the use of the infa-

mous prime bank guaran-

tees — bogus instruments

that are held out as a kind of

financial rocket fuel, Again,

the internet was used to help

From these few brief ex-

amples, it is obvious that

there is, as yet at least,

nothing very innovative about Internet fraud. The

unscrupulous are still rely-

ing on the conventional

buzzwords to attract and

reassure investors. Although

it can be difficult to discover

who is behind a particular e-

mail or web site, the SIB

says it is hard for those

running dubious investment

schemes to hide completely.

They still need to make

contact with their victims.

However, the SIB is worried

about new services that offer

anonymity

for those

sending mes-

the promotion.



Irish eyes eye Forte

IN SPITE of Gerry Robinson's repeated assertions to the contrary, the great Forte sell-off may already have begun. You know the kind of thing ageing but still attractive hotel, one careful owner, all offers considered.

City Diary has already been approached by one Irish solicitor, representing a group of businessmen with eyes on the Belfast Forte Crest. What are the chances of a purchase, he asked, and to whom should he talk? In faithful service to its readers, we have furnished the solicitor with Granada's telephone number.

Power play LAURA ASHLEY, the

womenswear and furnishing retailer, is decidedly more feminine of late. Ann Iverson yesterday rounded off a recruitment spree with her fifth female appointment since she took over as chief executive last September. Kathy Self becomes senior vice-president of retail operations in North America, joining Patricia Manning, mar-keting director, Deborah Baker, human resources director, Julie Ramshaw, merchandising director, and Basha Cohen, design and buying director. The five join Ms Iverson on the li-strong executive committee, resulting in the rare occurrence of women. outnumbering men, at such a senior level.



"Thought you said Granada was in no hurry to sell"

Explosive work

27 1 1 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2

REVIEWERS may rave "you must read this book". but few carry the authority of Ian Plenderleith, Bank of England director and official government broker. He told investors and traders gathered at the Grocer's Hall yesterday that the new £45 Merrill Lynch Guide to the Gilt-Edged and Sterling Bond Markets was "essential reading". He would, be added, be conducting tests back at the Bank to make sure people had done their homework. These tests could prove alarming given that Plenderleith believes that Patrick Phillips. the author, former de Zoete broker and now Merrill consultant, is "the first rocket scientist of the gilt-edged market, our

own Werner von Braun". COLIN CAMPBELL



ANATOLE KALETSKY

Time has come to review the demand-side disaster

BRITAIN COULD BE WORKING

JOBS AND UNEMPLOYMENT

INFLATION AND LABOUR COSTS

(Annual per cent change)

Stakeholder debate ought to focus on social issues

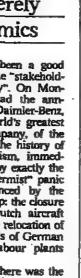
not merely economics

t has not been a good week for the "stakeholder economy". On Mon-day, we had the ann-ouncement by Daimler-Benz, perhaps the world's greatest stakeholder company, of the biggest loss in the history of German capitalism, immediately followed by exactly the kind of "short-termist" panic measure denounced by the stakeholder camp; the closure of the entire Dutch aircraft industry and the relocation of tens of thousands of German jobs to cheap-labour plants

takeover of Forte by Granada. a classic short-termist assetstripping operation. At first sight, this raid seemed just the sort of outrage that stake-holding is designed to stamp out. On closer inspection, however, the success of the bid turned on the direct involvement in both Granda's and Forte's corporate affairs of an active long-term shareholder - in this case Mercury Asset Management. This takeover was driven by

the enthusiastic commitment to Granada's strategy of active shareholders such as Carol Galley, MAM's suddenly famous vice-chairman. It is true that other stakeholders in the bid were not consulted, but does anyone think that Ms Galley's decision would have been any different if she had invited in a delegation of Forte workers and suppliers for a cup of tea? In this case, the supposed cure of "hands-on" active shareholders turned out

By relying too much on market forces in areas such as health, education, law, the arts and the relief of poverty, the Tories have probably done Britain more harm than good. These basic values of a civilised society are not commodities, whose production and distribution should be gov-



25.5

On Tuesday, there was the

to be the cause of the disease.

news got even worse with the attacks on Harriet Harman. Ms Harman had undertaken the ultimate stakeholder action. She had asserted her right and duty to play an active role in her son's education and at the same time cast the clearest possible vote of no confidence in the decimation of central London's schools after 17 years' of Tory government. For this, she was pilloried by the very people in the Labour Party who say they want to transform Britain from a nation of consumers and shopkeepers into a nation of active citizens - of people who can work together through non-market social mechanisms without money

always having to change hands. Personally, I think Tony Blair was on the right track two weeks ago when he set forth his vision of creating a "stakeholders' Britain". What he seemed to mean was that the realm of politics should be expanded to many areas of life in Britain that had been taken

over by market forces. erned simply by buying at the cheapest price and selling to the highest bidder. The principle of one man one vote should not be entirely superseded by

one pound one vote. The trouble is that the history of the "stakeholder" concept, at least in Britain, suggests a much narrower focus on economic and financial, rather than social issues. The claims made are economic, rather than social or moral. The stakeholder economy is said to be more efficient and better at taking long-term good not only for the soul, but also for economic growth.

One danger for Labour polihowever, is that broader ideals about making British society fairer, more civilised and democratic will be neglected or discredited if the narrow economic claims made by the stakeholder lobby are seen to fail. Another is the danger that by focusing economic policy on microeconomic supply-side issues, such as corporate governance and financial regulation, a Labour government will be distracted from the infinitely more important task of managing demand for full employment and

rapid growth.

The only real economic debate in the general election now looks like being the clash hetween stakeholders and free marketeers. Labour will claim that short-termism and low investment are at the root of Britain's alleged economic failure; the Tories will insist that their free-market policies have energised the economy and now promise to make Britain the most dynamic and prosperous country in Europe.

1973 1975 1977

1979

1981

UNIT LABOUR COSTS

This clash of ideas will no doubt throw up all kinds of interesting theories and statistics. This week, for example, Michael Kitson and Jonathan Michie, of Cambridge University, have published an article the Economic Journal showing that Britain's net manufacturing investment be-tween 1979 and 1989 fell to oneseventh of its pre-1973 level. They see this decline as an unmitigated disaster and attribute it largely to shorttermism and the "role of the City of London in the functioning of the economy and the

formulation of policy".

Meanwhile, Patrick
Minford, of Liverpool University, claims to have evidence that Labour's plans to regulate employment and adopt the European social chapter could destroy three million jobs.

Neither of these claims

nor any others like them will ever settle the question of whether the British economy would benefit from more or less regulation. Every statistic on one side can be matched by some figure the other side can quote. In the Kitson-Michie article, for example, there is a footnote which admits that Britain's gross manufacturing investment in the 1980s was almost identical to that in Germany and France. The difference was that Britain scrapped far more of its outdated and uncompetitive factories. Many of these were the legacy of state-sponsored overinvestment in industries such as steel, shipbuilding and cars.

A general election is certainnot the appropriate forum for settling such arcane acawhen there is another issue of

1963

EMPLOYEES AND SELF-EMPLOYED IN EMPLOYMENT

far greater economic substance which the politicians really could get their teeth into. This is the incredible incompetence of British monetary, fiscal and exchange-rate policy since 1976, when Jim Callaghan made his famous speech repudiating Keynesian economics and Denis Healey blazed the monetarist trail for Twenty years on, it is surely

time for a total review - one might almost say a witch-hunt into — this catastrophic experiment. By abandoning the active management of demand. which had been the centrepiece of economic policy since the Keynesian revolution, the monetarist zealots did not merely create two horrendous recessions. They also managed to wreck any hope of a free-market miracle in the late

We will never know whether the labour market and financial liberalisation of the 1980s really did strengthen the economy, because John Major's demand management policies deliberately pushed the economy into recession just as the supply-side reforms were taking hold. And even today, the Treasury's determination to repress demand growth to around the "trend rate" 2.5 per cent means there are no tangible gains from the Thatcher revolution which voters can identify.

In exactly the same way.

framework of demand munagement - which neither Tony Blair nor Gordon Brown have ever seen fit to question - will make it literally impossible to judge whether a Labour government's supply-side policies can create full employment, or indeed do any good at

By far the most important and mysterious - question of political economy in Britain today is why politicians of all parties have joined this conmanagement. The Government, i suppose, is rejuctant to debate macroeconomic policy because most of the blame for wrecking the Thatcher experiment would then fall personally on John Major.

Labour's silence on macroeconomics is partly motivated by fear of the financial markets. But I think there is also a more sinister motive: many Labour politicians do not want to believe that a market economy could be made to create and maintain full employment simply by manipulating monetary policy and fiscal policy

and exchange rates. Perhaps socialists simply prefer to believe that achieving prosperity is impossible without root and branch social reform. If so, they should take a look at France and Spain. There they can see the disasters that befall deflationary socialist governments that choose to keep millions in the dole queues, instead of allowing a market economy the oxygen of demand which it needs to prosper and grow.

'Surf' boards on the lookout for shysters in cyberspace

Paul Durman on the fight against

the financial villains on the Internet

Internet.

yberspace is the final frontier in the endless war between investment regulators and the financially unscrupulous. The Internet crossed over into the mainstream in 1995, creating an enormous new financial advertising and the promotion of fanciful investment schemes. The Securities and Investments Board, the UK's senior financial watchdoe, went online recently and is now surfing for shysters.

- 11

As the S1B recognises, the Internet and the box-ticking bureaucracy of financial regulation is not a marriage made in heaven. Martin Hollobone, SIB executive officer, says it is "a case of tightly drafted legislation meets cyberspace punks".

The Personal Investment Authority, the body responsible for private investors, does not allow investments to be arranged over the Internet because its rules require direct offer adverprinted form. So while you can use the "net" to insure your home and its contents

against fire since general insurance is not covered nanacial Serrely on more traditional methods investment will pay off YOUT mortgage. The dress this anachronism in a paper on the multimedia age which will be out

Attempts

jurisdictional problems

raised by a genuinely world-

wide computer network. Eff-

ective policing is going to

depend on considerable international co-operation.

Mr Hollobone said the

SIB has come across several

instances of what look like

unauthorised investment

businesses, and has inter-

vened "to ascertain what

exactly is going on". But it

has yet to take legal action.

As ever, the Americans are

ahead of us. Over the last

few months, the Securities &

Exchange Commission has

put a stop to several alleged

investment scams. In one. a company raised more than

\$3 million from 20,000 in-

vestors who were invited to

share in enormous profits

from a worldwide telephone

lottery, with a purported

income of \$300 million a

week. Bob Burson, a lawyer

with the SEC's Chicago of-

fice, said an important rea-

son for the rapid growth of

sages over the Internet. Mr Hollobone expects the Internet place increasing demands on the SIB's resources, though it is clearly possible monitor its output. He is obviously reluctant to reveal the tacties the SIB will use to home in on problem firms. At a very simple

problems for watchdogs

tors can seek problems by running varimade in the US to force up the prices of thinly traded ous key words through one shares via the Internet. The of the Internet "search en-Stock Exchange rather glib-ly asserts that the UK does gines". WebCrawler, one of the leading search tools, found 47 "hits" on prime not face this problem. though it was unable to bank guarantees. explain why. The immediate The problems with the worries about the Internet are the apparent anonymity that it can offer and the

Internet may increase as people become more accustomed to buying goods and services on-line. Although many UK financial services companies are experimenting with their own web-sites, most have stopped short of setting up inter-active facilities - for fear of computer hackers setting out to corrupt company data.

Independent Insurance has been bolder than most. In conjunction with Bervale Mead, the broker, it has set up The Insurance Club on the "net" to offer specially designed cover for home contents, buildings and computers, independent is confident that its encryption devices protect itself and its customers' credit and details. Mr Hollobone said the SIB does not want to stand in the way of the enthusiasm for opportunities created by the Internet. But he added: "We are very concerned that investors don't treat it as a wonderful new technological development without

Students can now learn how to cope with stakeholders

Essay contest poses a question

of ethics, writes Lindsay Cook

S tudents are being given the opportunity to expe-rience the problems companies face in trying to balance the needs of different stakeholders when making business decisions. The National Westminster/The Times Business Ethics Essay Competition for undergraduates has set a business conundrum to be solved taking heed of the interests of all the parties. The problem was set in the

autumn long before Tony Blair declared that Labour wanted a stakeholder society. Students are invited to consider what John Smith, chief executive of Food Chain Stores, might do when trying to close a suburban branch. The chain

needs to overhaul its operations, get rid of old stores and ce them with larger ones. The branch serves a large number of low-income families, but would not allow sufficient expansion to increase the number of lines on the shelves and improve profitability.

Smith has received hundreds of

Shareholders will benefit from the savings of closing an uneconomic branch, but Mr. find another solution.



Lindsay Cook and Derek Wanless are pictured with Merlin Wilcox, who won the competition last year

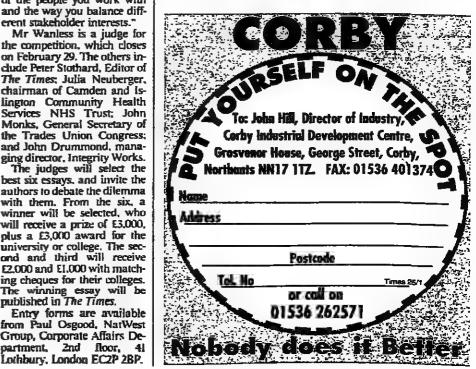
protest letters from customers and is greeted by protestors and reporters. Staff are unhappy that they may lose their iohs. He has to decide whether to serve the community at the expense of shareholders, or to

Many bank chief executives

have faced similar decisions when trying to close the last remaining branch in rural areas. NatWest has a code of conduct to guide the actions of all employees. Derek Wanless, chief executive of NatWest Group, said at the time of the launch: Ethics in business honesty, it's about the values of the people you work with and the way you balance diff-erent stakeholder interests." Mr Wanless is a judge for the competition, which closes

The Times, Julia Neuberger, chairman of Camden and Islington Community Health Services NHS Trust; John Monks, General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress; and John Drummond, managing director, Integrity Works. The judges will best six essays, and invite the authors to debate the dilemma with them. From the six, a winner will be selected, who will receive a prize of £3,000, plus a £3,000 award for the university or college. The second and third will receive £2,000 and £1,000 with matching cheques for their colleges.

The winning essay will be published in The Times. Entry forms are available from Paul Osgood, NatWest Group, Corporate Affairs Department, 2nd floor, 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP.





Relocation-Expansion-Start-ups

HUNT FOR THE MISSING MILLIONS PART EIVE

How Talbot polished Maxwell's Mirror

Administrator refused to let MGN be bought on the cheap

the £370 million placing of 54 per cent of Mirror Group Newspapers' shares in the autumn of 1993 represented the glittering prize for John Talbot, the senior administrator. Not only had he done battle with the "Maxfactor", but he had emerged victorious from "Mirrorgate".

Talbot always perceived the controlling stake in Mirror Group as the potential jewel in Robert Maxwell's broken crown. In the dark days of December 1991, MGN's share price had been suspended, for the second time, "pending clarification of the company's financial position". The initial suspension, following Robert Maxwell's disappearance at sea, had seen the quote frozen at 77 p. The second halt to dealings came at 125p: the price at which Maxwell had floated 49 per cent of MGN's shares the preceding May.

The MGN share stake, controlled by Robert Maxwell Holdings, was initially thought to amount to 51 per cent. This was the belief shared by the outside world and the administrators until the "untouchables" discovered that Maxwell's clandestine share purchases had raised the interest to 54.8 per cent. When the insolvency practitioners originally applied for an administration order over RMH, the court was told that the administrators' ability to hold the MGN share block together and prevent individual banks from selling shares that they held a charge over. could prove highly beneficial

if sales of stock reduced the holding below 50.01 per cent. any premium for control would be lost. Talbot recalls: "I controlled the shares, but could not sell them without the consent of the chargeholders or, in extreme circumstances, iaily. The banks could not take possession of the shares and sell them without my consent, or the consent of the court."

Talbot's suggestion to the four banks - NatWest, Midland, Lloyds and Goldman Sachs — was that he should continue to control the shares and work closely with MGN to stabilise the company, while liaising with them. Talbot let it be known that he did not object to the banks taking control of the shares if they acted as a unit, but he would strenuously oppose any attempt to break ranks by way of premature share sales. Talbot points out: "Fortunately, none

pricing was the most impor-

tant international tax issue

they face — no other tax area was identified as a major concern by even half of

A clash between multina-

tionals and governments on

this issue was almost inevitable. Governments are keen to

improve their balance of pay-

ments by attracting lucrative

commercial activities to their

territory; corporations are con-

cerned with returns to share-

holders. Businesses are inc-

reasingly organised along op-

erational not national lines.

making it difficult to allocate

activity - and hence taxable

There has, for years, been a

suspicion among tax authori-

ties that multinational com-

panies set transfer prices - at

which companies within a

group pay each other for goods

and services when these cross

fiscal borders - in order to

minimise taxable profits and

thus avoid tax.

profit - to particular areas.

of this became necessary ued to control the shares and fragmentation never became

During the early days, Talbot experienced serious mis-givings about MGN's ability to survive. Maxwell Communication Corporation looked destined to follow the private empire into administration (as it did) and it appeared that MGN could easily go the same way. Talks with Ernest Burrington, MGN's recently appointed chairman, and his co-directors, had left Talbot board was still suffering from shock. Maxwell's death and the discovery that approxi-mately half of MGN's pension fund assets of £520 million were missing had taken their toll. Directors consulted lawyers at every turn. As Talbot puts it: "The focus was inward

The financial position of MGN was critical and accountants Ernst & Young had been commissioned to prepare a report for the lending banks that were owed more than £300 million. Talbot urged the banks to support the publishing house. Louis Franks, of Midland: "They persuaded the other lenders to agree to a standstill and ongoing support."
Taibot informed Burrington

that although he did not intend to become a director he did intend to become closely involved in MGN's affairs and that he or his colleague. Bruce Gordon, would like to sit in on board meetings. At the first "sit-in", Talbot noted that the directors were surrounded by a cabal of City advisers and lawvers. The essence of Talbot's message, whispered into Burrington's ear, was "spend more time on strategy. analysing the past". Talbot was determined to combat the "inward focus".

To what extent had MGN been damaged? Would more black holes open up? With such questions in the air. MGN was not saleable at this stage, other than at a knockdown price. Taibot was determined not to let a third party snap up MGN on the cheap and duly discovered that the shareholder banks felt much the same way. Talbot reflects: The media felt somewhat differently. Their focus was on the various parties expressing

Pearson, publisher of the



John Talbot, left, was impressed by David Montgomery, but bankers had to be convinced the political leaning of the Mirror would not be affected

Financial Times, was the first to throw its hat in the ring. Frank Barlow, Pearson's chief executive, declared that the company was looking at the opportunity of purchasing MGN. Burrington promptly opined that Pearson could deliver the guarantees of noninterference in editorial which would enable MGN to continue in its present mould". No sooner had Pearson pronounced than Richard Stott. men Eulioi ror, revealed his plans for a management buyout of MGN supported by Electra, the venture capital specialists. Come the new year of 1992 and Pearson publicly pulled out. As Talbot drily remarks: They announced their decision to withdraw before asking us if the shares were for sale." Lonrho, which then owned The Observer, also cast a fleeting glance.

Sir Peter Parker, former chairman of British Rail, agreed to head up Stott's MBO. Talbor held talks with Stott's team and emphasised that he did not favour a rapid sale. In order to dampen

speculation. Talbot publicly stated that the controlling block of shares would not be sold in the short term. No sooner had Talbot spoken than Tony O'Reilly, chairman of the Dublin-based Independent Newspapers, let it be known that he was considering a bid for MGN. By the summer of 1992, Burrington had resigned and Sir Robert Clark, MGN's fourth chair50p — massively below 1991's 125p offer for sale price — this placed a value of around £100 Talbot was patiently polish-

Melvyn Marckus charts John Talbot's epic sale of Robert Maxwell's 54 per cent stake in MGN

man in eight months, faced an inevitably stormy AGM. Strengthened and had initiated a dialogue along these lines with Sir Robert. Earlier in the inevitably stormy AGM. Overall losses, as a by-product of pension fund manipulation, amounted to the thick end of £500 million. During the storm. some shareholders proclaimed that "buckets of whitewash" had been poured over MGN's directors.

As the storm subsided. MGN's shares were thawed after a seven-month freeze. At

ing. Speculation persisted that a stake was being accumulated and O'Reilly duly emerged as a 2 per cent shareholder. Both Talbot and advisers NM Rothschild had long taken the view that MGN's management needed to be

year, several third parties had

posals to inject new manage-

ment, invariably in return for

a significant share stake at a relatively insignificant price. Talbot and the banks, it was

suggested, would then be at

liberty to dispose of their holdings at the higher values

go achievements of the new words: "I did not find these proposals attractive because I could see no reason why we should not implement a similar strategy and obtain all the upside for the benefit of the banks and the creditors." Such proposals, one of which had come from Hambros, had been rejected. The

Hambros proposal, put forinvolved a management team. led by David Montgomery, former Editor of Today. Beaver had subsequently in-formed Talbot that, regardless of the original proposal, Montgomery's team was still interested in becoming involved. Talbot eventually met

Montgomery and was impressed by his strategies. He was also impressed by Montgomery's colleagues, John Allwood, who would fill the vacant slot of finance director. and Murdoch MacLennan, the prospective production director, in line with Talbot's straddling act, a meeting between Montgomery's camp

that would result from the goand the quartet of secured

bankers was arranged at Arthur Andersen's offices. Tallbot recalls: "One of many issues that the bankers focused on was the political direction of the Daily Mirror. The bankers. requested assurances that this would not change. These as-surances were given and both the bankers and myself were reassured by the presence of Lord Hollick on the incoming team. The political direction of the newspa to myself and the bankers because we believed this was a major commercial benefit to the company. One of the bankers stated categorically that his bank would not be associated with any action that could lead to a change in the

A series of meetings was arranged with a view to obtaining support for Montgomery & Co from key MGN directors, but no sooner was this process initiated, than the news leaked. Tremors shook the Labour Party, fearful that the political complexion of the Daily Mirror was in danger of

political balance of the British

being mud-packed. This, in turn, heightened the risk of internal strife at MGN. The board meeting, to consider the management changes. was brought forward to October 13. It was no secret that Talbot, MGN's controlling shareholder, favoured Montgomery's appointment, but support for the dour Ulsterman was by no means unanimous and the atmosphere during the run-up to the board meeting was tense. Talbot held the ace of trumps. He could, with more than 50 per cent of the votes, threaten to call an EGM and attempt to railroad through Montgomery's appointment. Talbot knew this, as did MGN's directors. In the event, Talbot never played the card, a move that would have farned internal politics. Talbot much preferred to leave the onus

Enter Montgomery, closely followed by Allwood, MacLennan and Lord Hollick, a development that finally put an end to speculation over the possibility of O'Reilly mounting a takeover assault. David Banks succeeded Stott as Editor of the Daily Mirror. In Talbor's words: Montgomery and the bankers were accused by the media of attempting to move the Daily Mirror to the right. This was incredibly ironic in view of the banks' perspective and the undertak-

ing given by Montgomery." l'albot continued to "sit in" with the new management as MGN's recovery strategy was put in place: a strategy punctuated by press reports that Lord Hollick wanted to acquire control of MGN. Lord Hollick finally declared that he could not fully support MGN's mansupport for the management and, in March 1993, Lord Hollick bowed out of the boardroom.

MGN's results for 1992 ush-ered in restructuring provi-sions of £116.5 million, which saw 1991's pre-tax profit of £47.3 million replaced with a loss of £84 million. But, with operating profits up 16 per cent to £97.5 million, the share price continued to rise: to 115p. Early in September. Talbot revealed that MGN and Maxwell's "private side" com-panies had finally agreed "substantially" all mutual claims. News of an upsurge in 1993's mid-year pre-tax profits

from £15.3 million to close on £70 million provided the platable to declare that he was planning a sale of "up to all" his near 55 per cent shareholding. Support for the issue proved

strong enough to allow Roth-schild and Cazenove to close their "book building" exercise early. The target striking price of 170p was achieved, which valued the jewel at £373 million. Talbot's timing — with media stocks in vogue — proved impeccable. MGN's current quote: 190p.

Melvyn Marckus, City Editor, will analyse Arthur Ander-sen's £700 million of realisations in his Saturday column

ACCOUNTANCY

THE headlines that greeted the The price \$200 million transfer pricing adjustment suffered by Glaxo Wellcome at the hands of the Inland Revenue reflect the is right growth of interest in this area. in a survey of more than 200 multinational companies carried out by Ernst & Young last or else year, 82 per cent said transfer



Lindsay Dodsworth says transfer pricing is a key tax issue

potential transfer pricing abuses and impose penalties. while companies have to meet documentation and disclosure

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Other countries took the US lead, although most, includ-Development was trying to ing the UK. continue to rely on win consensus among member states for a common aodomestic legislation requiring transactions between connectproach to transfer pricing in ed companies to take place at 1979. But the US Internal Review Service blew apart an "arm's-length" price - ie. these efforts by introducing as if they were independent companies. The OECD has statutory transfer pricing rules in 1986. These rules give the tried to bring about order. The UK authorities have not IRS wide powers to investigate

been inactive, as Glaxo found. its case concerned the Revenue's right to go back beyond six years to adjust "open" assessments (where no agreement has been reached on a tax bill) where transfer pricing was not directly under dispute, rather than the technical basis of the adjustment itself. An amendment to the 1996 Finance Bill confirmed the Revenue's power to make such adjustments. And while

Kenneth Clarke's Budget

pledge to bring transfer pric-

ing within the self-assessment regime did not appear, it can only be a matter of time, which creates the spectre of a USstyle penalties regime, if the taxpayer and authorities cannot agree on the "right" price.
If there is such a thing as the
"right" transfer price, it is

normally deemed to be a socalled "comparable uncontrolled price", which follows the "arm's-length" principle. Such an uncontrolled price is hard to find, and, even if available, unlikely to be in the public domain. Internal transfer pricing

may well not even matter to some multinationals. Onceunthinkable whispers are gathering momentum would it not be simpler to split profits between countries that have added value to a transaction using a formula agreed in advance with the tax authorities - the ultimate advance pricing agreement? Purists and theoreticians

will throw up their hands in horror at such a suggestion. but as businesses move from territorial towards purely operational lines, what value do the traditional transactionbased methods of determining profits have? Under the above scenario, a company can ger on with making profits and adding value for shareholders without concern for the tax cost. It would also relieve tax authorities of the need to invest resources to police transfer pricing, at a saving to the local exchequer. Surely, this is to the benefit of both governments and taxpayers?

LINDSAY DODSWORTH Corporate Tax Partner at Ernst & Young

Is the tail wagging the dog?

own in Moorgate Place, the leadership of the English ICA undoubtedly become very depressed with the attitude of journalists. All we seem to chronicle is defeat after defeat for the institute's worthies. The answer, of course, would be for the institute to achieve one or several of its objectives. Sadly, I have again this week to tell of another defeat.

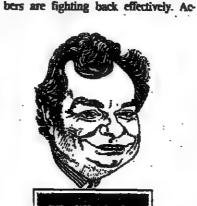
But there is a bit of a silver lining. The English ICA seems to have caught up with the consequences of community action, stakeholding, effective grassroots activism, call it what you will.

The case in point was straightforward and you can see why the institute did not seem at all worried about it. A small practitioner in Liverpool called John Cook read through his regular mailings from the institute. He noticed a mooted change in the education syllabors a move from the old straightforward system of exam questions to one where choices could be made to allow people to shine at their particular specialisms. The institute was asking him for a response to its proposals. He sent one. He argued that this was moving the count content from that which provided a common bond through the qualification. He argued this was contrary to the institute's charter.

He received the sort of reply you might expect. He wrote further indignant letters. He was the sort of person the institute would assume had little interest in education plans. "My response," he will tell you. "was listened to only in a public relations sense." It amonyed him. But with membership of almost 110,000, the institute knows it is not going to please everyone. But Cook did not give up.

Last week, having produced the requisize 250 signatures to call a meeting, the issue was put to the vote. And the institute was defeated. No wonder that the insti-

houn, looking thunderous, sat in silence. With a special mailing to all members. counsel's opinion and two expensive chaps from Linklaters & Paines at the meeting you are looking at a large amount being spent on having a custard pie placed firmly in your face. The im-portant issue is not that of education and he structure of the exams. It is that mem-



ROBERT BRUCE.

countancy bodies have always had a rump of grouchy members who would never agree on anything. The difference now is that people are more articulate and effective in their disapproval. The certified accountants found this last year when they were trounced by rebels led by Prem Sikka. The issues then, and last week at the institute, were not technical. They are issues of deep dissatisfaction with the remoteness of power.

Cook's real gripe is not the educational

changed its rules to allow the executive more decision-making powers. The arguments then were simple. Life was increasingly complex. Detailed issues should be dealt with by committees guided by a small core. Council could debate and vote on the principles and final decisions. The result, in Cook's view, is that "the executive tail is wagging the council dog far too much". He is an outsider. He has no detailed knowledge of this. But he picks up the signs. "All my letters to the president were passed down to the executive to answer and the president is reduced to a rubber stamp." In the past, none of this would have surprised anyone and the opposition would have got nowhere. But Prem Sikka's effort at the certified accountants has resulted this month in a glossy consultative document to all members. It talks of devolving power, of creating a federal structure, and has a cover depicting Earth viewed from space. It cannot be long before their members are setting up treehouses in the council chamber in the fight for reform. Equally, the end of last week's meeting at the English ICA produced another perennial rebel, Jeff Wooler, virtually setting up shop to canvass signatures to force a special meeting to make the annual presidential election involve all members. Cook may go for a special meeting to reverse the 1993 changes that enhanced

At the heart sit the ICA leaders, no longer knowing what anyone wants or how to achieve it. With a members' vote due in June on a merger with CIMA, the management accounting body, this is worrying. The only consolation, as I said, is that they are not alone in finding the traditional methods of wielding power do not seem to work any more.

THE TIMES THURSDAY JANUARY 25	iàào	EQUITY PRICES 29
1995/6 High Lour Company (n) - +/- N-FIE High Lour Company (n) -+/- N-FIE BIANKS DIANKS THE COMPANY (N) -+/- N NE	Equities close at best of day	1995/6 Proce P
2000; 2137-1438-14460 3019-+ 7: 42 11.3 197- 87 493 ris	price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.	271 42 Caules 221
2.57 1.57 1.58 1.58 1.57 1.		350 224 MA 3 40 + 7 32 16 9 410 263 Ordered mith 455 25 16 1 150 - 71 1841 595 CP P 1271 - 7 61 93 70 Parasting Flow 74 96 102 966 880 MANA Bible - 4 88 881 155 40 55 May 4 156 107 130 90 May 1 185 107 120 100 May 1 185 107 100 100 May 1 155 107 100 May 1 155
253 190 Hendrus 281 47 15 15 169 Motions 25 25 1 160 Motions 25 15 160 Motions 25	131 35 Advise: 34 49 202 101 66 Sension 724 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	255 261 5 8 U 309 5 2 9 f 950 638 Contenses 895 4 72 18 133 101 5 8 Cares 1517 - 1 3 7 102 3 80 209 Storetuses 209 - 1 29 179 5654 1257 Same Patric 5664 177 2 7 2 1.8 140 110 Safe 113 5 2 9 7 18 15 Tears Lan 17 1 2 2 2 1.8 140 110 Safe 15 5 Store 15 4 120 17 1 2 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
SEP 280/1 in Series 320 - 1 55 175 150 161 161 161 162 163 163 164 1	\$ \begin{align*} \text{St. 76 Related (false)} & \begin{align*} \text{36 Related (false)} & \begin{align*} \t	### C5 Bif Balled
279 147 Acc) 14dept 270 0.6 22 27 28 27 77 Architecture 27 28 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29	177 78 Str. Hamilton 155 1.0 11.1 175 14th Procing 70 173 3.5 112 100 finite Man 1610 1610 1625 5 113 40 124 hooppoint 466 27 195 147 10045 507 17 12107 5 27 114 80 162 Plant Spanish 10 , 1.3 101 112 Rans blace Sin Ca 1207 5 5 42 135 160 interestable 50 99 107 40 80 100 47 27 21.3 330 337 Penning Amer 170 170 170 170 170 170 170 170 170 170	1777 - 12 28 259 710 to 64 there Clark 567 - 2 42 1179 61 there Clark 667 - 2 42 1179 61 there Clark 107 2 2 3
252 86 Magate Theory 254 + 2 23 153 253 251 187 French 252 7	## ## ## Wiles - 26 + 5 26 212 ## 52 Reverse Sedan 52 - 14 23 1314, 1059 Schmad Seda 250 1259 25 Reverse Seda 52 Reverse S	142 129 AD Holdergs 120 55 120 973 673 AD1 955 27 27 297 167 April Regular 150 4 1 12 Abritanes 37 08 27 2 27 3 3 3 3 Abritanes 150 4 4 1 27 Abritanes 37 08 27 2 3 3 3 Abritanes 150 4 4 1 27 Abritanes 150 2 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4
110 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	## 25 AF Intel ## 27 AF Intel ## 28 AF Intel	25 387 Service 100 2281 \(\times \) 42 127 779 199 199 100
150 150 Abbort 140	13 3-Restand Stoop 56 28 1 977- 127 Section Stool 1777- 114 0.5 123 113 18 Nect Net 125 0.2 69 26 Minimal 0.5 3.9 3.9 305 Section Stool 0.0 175- 125 Section	102 Ferry Peck 192 39 17 2 370 223 Debh 370 1 2 456 226 138 Inspects 166 4 2 147 107 66 Debh askin 99 4 5 149 226 Leve Patter 267 1 3 1147 107 66 Deap Peck 99 4 5 149 268 Leve Patter 267 1 3 1147 103 14 2 Deap Peck 96 7 1 1 3 1147 103 14 2 Deap Peck 96 7 1 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
800** 307** Scheleby Rep** 484 - 7** 3.1 4.9 178 128 128 128 128 129 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120	23 245 241 242 243 244 245	97 5-5 5-6 77 7 11 Lines-Scale 17 28 5 19 5 5-6 17 7 1 1 Lines-Scale 17 28 5 19 5 5-6 17 7 1 1 Lines-Scale 17 28 5 19 5 5-6 17 7 1 1 Lines-Scale 17 28 5 19 5 19 5 19 5 19 5 19 5 19 5 19 5 1
170 53 Committee 65 5.88 61 43 Oreal Redokulou 61 - 4.3 8.5 98 70 Comput. 78 6.1 6.5 283 188 Fee Group 210 5.4 11.3 29 15 Enklord 18 7.4 2.5 603 735 Genom Pulsy 735 2.5 14.6 80 45 Genom Resulty 735 11.4 24.4 274 178 Mentional Euro 289 1.15 22.6 754, 4379 Sund Indicatory 673 + 3 5.5 8.4	387: 278 MB Fearl 380 + 1 25 125 106 75 Healt 129 . 155 . 45 See Antang 42 - 5 41 123 105 77 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 380 + 1 25 125 105 75 Healt 29 . 155 . 45 Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45 . 103 4 15 Section 12 27 278 MB Fearl 48 Lees 45	22 7058 moory 24 10 4 10 4 10 4 10 4 10 4 10 4 10 4 1
176 Marchest Earn 200 1.3 22.5 1.5	SFF 240 Exchange-Sell + 2 27 194 147 28 MESCO Day Int 107 + 2 187 28 194 187 128 18550 Page 151 195 28 188 188 194 195 128 188 188 194 195 128 188 188 194 195 128 188 188 194 195 128 188	100 100
10 102 103 103 104	200 Hillscham 100 2 64 121 27 165 Internal 27	219 17 Brackhorts 217 49 20 2 3495 2176 Remarkski 246 47 13 268 27 13 268 27 27 28 27 28 28 28 2
Comparison Com	77 7 38 600 38 + 1 99 27 115 116 116 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 1	190 Can Ashala 254 38 284 120 1650 Derson 1165 39 111 1650 Derson 1165 39 111 165 167 16
176 124 Wilsons 43 186 - 2 11 122 27 17 Whith 147 W 274 21 19. 272 308 Wilson Brooks 303 - 1 3.5 11.2 251 117 Chant 147 W 274 21 19. 147 W Wilson Brooks 303 - 1 4.5 11.2 251 117 Chant 147 117 117 117 117 117 117 117 117 117	EQUITY SE FIXED INCOME RESEARCH SAFES & TRADING SAFES & TRADING	115 22 Search Cot Lends 107 33 150 71,20 33 Security Cor A 950 6 16 27
72 Abrigates 1 + 7 Abrigates 1	MANAGEMENT 36 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 27 12 88 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28 28	187 177 (Despend) 187 0.5 180 115 (Marchell W 166 - 2 46 17 180 115 (Marchell W 166 - 2 46 17 180 115 (Marchell W 166 - 2 46 17 180 115 (Marchell W 166 - 2 46 17 180 115 (Marchell W 166 - 2 46 17 180 115 (Marchell W 166 - 2 46 17 180 115 (Marchell W 166 - 2 46 17 180 115 (Marchell W 166 - 2 46 17 180 115 (Marchell W 166 - 2 46 17 180
191 175 Dyson (184) 123 27 151 220 20 Research April 256 + 1 42 -116 10 65 Dyson (184) 164 65 6.5 6.5 6.5 6.5 6.5 6.5 6.5 6.5 6.5	Telephone 0171 293 7040 55 3 3 3 2 2 122	77 26 Lon & Addres 29 29 131 512 525 Courtaint had 414 6 46 119 9 4 110 6 46th 6 5 107 46 110 6 46th 6 5 107 46 Lon Match Sect 92 60 207 120 72* Constant 111 34 4 20 17 7* 5****** Moternary A 54 54 122 7 194 (73) Contact 113 4 1 20 17 7* 5********************************
55 35 tenetom 40 50 53 172 75 both 125 - 5 47 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55 55	225 19 General 36 + 2 18 11.6 128 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 189 (Bene Es like 128 + 2 18 199 189 189 189 189 189 189 189 189	60 73 088 83 22 70 0885 Prep 25 1.5 22 4 95 66 From 27 66 6 9 2 126 128 204 Prep 25 1.5 22 4 7 10.5 72 Gen 27 90 35 5 8 2 128 204 Prep 1 126 128 204 Prep 1 126 128 204 Prep 1 126 128 Prep 1 126
200 285 Meyer Art 276 - 1 58 14/2 972 285 From 725 - 1 73 1/2 178 178 178 178 178 178 178 178 178 178	173 W. D. 174 Ba 178 189 Law S Law 20 45 . 170 50 Manders Cont. 854 43 188 50 11 G Respondent 189	17 Finglan 27 5-4 7-2 71 70 Finglan 28 7-5 8.3
26) 265 Tends Petitins 261 + 3 21 15.1 255 227 Messaret 325 + 1 1.7 14.0 35 24 Tender 30 2.1 17.8 597 230 Uniters 598 - 2 15 18.7 18.7 18.7 18.7 18.7 18.7 18.7 18.7	200 Sept Depth 25 + 8 34 142 267 275 Mail Dec Can 257 388 314 Stanley Lockson 344 22 178 35 11 Photosopt 45 10 12 Can 257 11 Sept Depth 127 55 115 115 115 115 115 115 115 115	16 12 100 Esta 131 23 306 73 41 Pittards 133 33 135 136
BUSINESS SERVICES ENGINEERING	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	## 14 0% Salesy 147; 301 186 182 189 92 182 184 185 184 185
2 Principle Dat	1073 1713 1804 & Flats 1200 + 127 23 - 1200 1200 + 127 23 - 1200 1200 + 127 23 - 1200 1200 + 1200 1200 1200 + 1200 12	100 100
as 20-Arrest 35 - 5 17 1411	287 485 Can Accident 687 + 11 34 89 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19	A Prince of Part 12 12 13 13 13 14 15 15 15 15 15 15 15
23 7 Remillet 55 44 118 234 24 125 Carte by 38 42 115 24 22 15 25 Carte by 38 42 115 24 22 15 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25	722 125 (185 (186) 18 272 - 174 60 63 15 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 1074 108 108 108 108 108 108 108 108 108 108	79 35: fictin factor 373 - 2 48 276 9 68 fiction Wilson 82 60 25 60 256 527 376 78 0 256 527 376 78 0 256 527 376 78 0 256 53 578 578 578 54 378 55 578 578 578 56 58 578534 56 58 578534 56 58 578534 56 58 578534 56 58 578534
165 123 Stepten 142 7 170 15 Stept 150 125 122 11.1 115 67 Stept Commun 16 47 223 14 7 Stepten 16 23 14.6 127 134 139 147 146 139 147 146 139 147 146 139 147 146 139 147 146 139 147 148 139 147 148 139 147 148 139 147 148 139 147 148 139 147 148 139 147 148 149 149 149 149 149 149 149 149 149 149	35 13 PMS 22 28 38 18Pm 111% Each U-M, 1981 15Pm 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	251 51 Agenty 250 05 343 123 63 123cs 49 55 - 1 39 109 225 150 Assist Rent 178 + 6 42 103 115 71 list Centers 52 67 774 124 55 Bestield 99 2 107 at 35 Bestield 99 2 107 at 38 Bestield 77 4 41a 69 30 85act Lets 68 1 47 359 WATER
150 97 (States 177 + 2 45 145 37 18 large grace at 2 15 145 15 17 18 large grace at 2 15 145 15 16 17 18 large grace gra	## 10	219 122 Circles III 180 15 223 2200 1656 5000 5002 7588 39 191 180 180 500 5000 4021 758 39 191 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 15
90 50 1104 48 2 23 15.8 179 100 100 100 120 1 2 15.5 25.5 25.5 25.5 27.5 Markets 357 2 66 135 11 39 23 Markets 357 2 66 135 11 39 23 Markets 357 2 26 135 11 39 100 Markets 357 2 26 135 11 39 100 Markets 357 2 26 135 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	19	10 17 1200 100 101

ISE PINES UNIT RUST INFORMATION OF THE PINES UNIT R	
AS UNIT TRUST LIAMAGERS LTD CHARLES THE TRUST WENT LTD C	See Bay 4/- 5 See Bay 4/- 5 See Bay 4/- 5 See S
Gerbend Fort Sat 159.00 1259 514 Hyb Receiver 5207 5172 4 016 300 40-Account 63.20 500 40-Acc	10 1229 - 650 del 107 380 280 107 380 280 108 108 108 108 108 108 108 108 108 1
## CASE COUNTY & LAMP LEAST TOT VERSE OTACO 550 251 OTACO 550 250 OTACO 550 251 OTACO 550 25	15 \$45 - 824 Employee 60 \$ 123.01 172.00 - 940 1.01 Employee 60 \$ 123.00 172.00 + 800 1.01 Employee 60 \$ 123.00 1.00 Employee 60 \$ 123.00 1.00 1.00 Employee 60 \$ 123.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 Employee 60 \$ 123.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00
General lory 54459 5730 4.00 2.00 Infrared Al 13 72.33 +1319 478 Infrared Al 1	7 . 1946 - 0.39 7 . 1946 - 0.3
Factor 1982 1983 1984 1985	Charl Greek 102.02 102.02 102.02 103.0
Section Column	Miles 1777 1988 7777 Paulife Mais 121.54 121.54 121.527
Auro 2 Carmetr 294.20 31300 - 0.70 2.73 [1777] Auror 01377 227.300 File Plants 1777 227.300 File P	1 19.70 - 1.37 TUT SELECT WITH MARKET WITH MARKET SELECT SEL
Forest 13 4 59 - 010 5 5 5 5 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	FA Same (IX Char 1987 4 1 12 1 19 Prof late PET # 100 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10
Part	78 198.70 + 8.98 221
Appropriate 12 13 14 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	28 1 182 22 An 1
Color Colo	TO 12012 ST 475 120
Part to 1s 101 00	Column C
For \$1,701 \no. \$1,000 \cdots \$1,000 \cd	Spirits had Sum 76.07 17.06 0.12 Cabbal Adulty Acc 49.55 48.00 0.20 151
1752 335 936 Input Growth 1779 123.11 - 0.97 Input Growth 1779 123.11	5 771 4 - 145 6 85.77 4 610 647 10 153.69 + 130 021 10 153.69 + 130 021 10 153.69 + 130 021 10 153.69 + 140 0
Ground A hours 205 00 254 10 * 0 50 277 Challes First 197 0 4 6 6 7 7 197 4 6 6 7 197 197 4 6 6 7 197 197 197 197 197 197 197 197 197 1	Tribut General 201.20 297.20 - 0.50 0.60 Pacific Bears 40.52 51.00 + 0.10 0.70
Section Sect	C FAAT + C.22 1.88 Fa bat hc Size
Company Control Cont	45-Action 28.00 285.30 + 0.00 0.09 STEAMNT FORM Last TAX ASPEA LTD 0137 229 5271
Spring Ings; Appl Alums 199 80 630 40 = 170 2.02 Con 3 for 65 31 49 90 + 9 11 40 Con 3 for 65 31 49 90 + 9 11 40 Con 3 for 65 31 49 90 + 9 11 40 Con 3 for 65 31 49 90 + 9 11 40 Con 3 for 65 31 49 90 + 9 11 40 Con 3 for 65 31 49 90 + 9 11 40 Con 3 for 65 31 49 90 + 9 11 40 Con 3 for 65 31 40 40 40 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	10
February 15-9 10 168 ml 0 0 157 150 158 ml 0 0 157 150 1	10 12 14 9 02 1 12 1 12 1 12 1 12 1 12 1 12 1 12
Spins 78.75 8.851 - 9.06 1.75 UF 20ml Cos 1935.50 2016.701 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 107.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 UK Equily browness 193.70 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 104.47 + 9.11 2.99 105.00 UK Equily browness 193.70 UK E	5 275 05 122 Sale S
Maria Green of Co. 170 Deliver 1990 Deliver 1	Figure 1 Sec. 251.0 251.0 4 4 40 0.2
Company Comp	Formula Sing: \$\(\frac{\pi_{15}}{\pi_{15}}\) \$\(\frac{\pi_{15}
No.	17.15 + 8.27 20.51 John Smaller 12.10 192.70 - 2.30 IR Chambridge 10.01 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 2.00 17.00 + 0.11 17.00 17.00 + 0.11 17.00 17.00 + 0.11 17.00 17.00 + 0.11 17.00 17
0147 534 5544 014 600 553 Feet 35 17 36 17 36 17 36 17 37 37 37 37 37 37 37 37 37 37 37 37 37	2 1566 + 0.22 2.17 FU 28.70 20.88 - 0.10 0.00 28.70 1.00 28.70
Formula State 97 57 97 347 - 0.07 6.55 Control control 2 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	If E Cross
Guiden	' 23 4 6 4 6 1 Fee Suph Ca. 95 10 107 of t a U.S. 824 6124 146 764
一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种一种	#2.25 + 9.17 2-40 decrease # 27.25 42.24 - 9.03 4.39 40-Accuss 25.25 20.27 + 9.17 27.0 27.0 4.39 40-Accuss 25.25 27.0 27.0 27.0 40.0 40.0 40.0 40.0 40.0 40.0 40.0 4
Section Sect	1925 1935
A 7 000 1010 (Claim of the control o	
Control Cont	40-Accuse 55.55 59717 - 917 244 Righ increase 68.51 77 49 1 1 1 4 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5
App Dept 104 x 174 77 + 105	Section Color Co
PROTECTION TO BE THE TOTAL TO BE THE PROTECTION OF THE PROTECTION	7500 + 122 040 Facilit 75073 30234 - D.E. 129 Value Fig. 105.51 146.027 - 0.11 1.87 Value Fig. 105.51 146.027 - 0.11 146.
### Definition of the control of the	20:00 - 260 000 - 46-Accoms 200 % 279 5 - 050 138 Demotre for Rd 6-43 - 64.29 + 0.01 140 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 15
Company Comp	25 24 24 25 25 25 25 25
Formula and the control of the contr	7-52 7-52 7-52 7-53 1-52 007 Acts Parlian to 10.00 10.
Comparison Com	10.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0
Part 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	77.23 - 9071 213 According 1982 1987 1 - 102 127 For Last 1982 1982 1982 1982 1982 1982 1982 1982
### 150 176 17	TF 2
### France	UK Figury 405,27 47 10 49 10 2.70 98 2.71 10 49 10 2.70 98 2.71 10 49 10 2.70 98 2.71 10 49 10 2.70 98 2.70 98 2.70 98 2.70 98 10 2.70 98 2.70 98 10 2.70
Contract	
Sept 150	12-99
1995 1996 1997 1996	2000 318.0 - 1 th 824 6 Pendic Charge dedicted from capital. @ East 120 225 5 120 225 6 120 225

حكذات الأعل



FILM I

Al Pacino is the cop hunting down Robert De Niro in the tense and atmospheric thriller, Heat



■ FILM 2

Pedro Almodovár rediscovers his touch, and finds a new maturity, in The Flower of my Secret





FILM 3

Sabrina proves a remake too far for Sydney Pollack, and Harrison Ford is no modern-day Bogart



FILM 4

Whitney Houston's latest is Waiting to Exhale, a great soundtrack with a minor movie attached

Heavyweight champs win in a knockout

CINEMA: De Niro and Pacino

turn up the Heat, and

Geoff Brown gets blown away; plus the other new releases

robbery in Los Angeles, Al Pacino's workaholic detective admits: They're good." Of course they're good; their boss is Robert De Niro, an actor who, in this film at least, never

nearly three hours. Writer and director Michael Mann needs the space, not so much to bombard us with action, but to draw us into the characters as they play games of cat and mouse, trust and betrayal, in a lonely city of night and neon.

A lesser director would fling

At times the alternation between personal lives becomes over-schematic. Occasionally the dialogue grates. Pacino's wife (Diane Venora) does not talk, she gives speeches: she even utters the word "detritus". But blemishes are forgotten as Mann burrows deep into the human consequences of crime on both sides of the law, and Dante Spinotti's camera prowls round the landscape of restaurants, deserted drive-ins, banks and hotels.

When the stars finally share

The Flower of my Secret Curzon Mayfair 15, 110 mins Pedro Almodóvar grows up

Sabrina Empire, PG, 127 mins Warner West End 15, 123 mins

The Innocent Sleep

Creaky British thriller ICA Cinema, 93 mins

18, 98 mins German comedy about

Not for Heat the Identikit crooks of most Hollywood movies

And when action is called for, Mann certainly delivers the goods. Even the most jaded eyes should blink as De Niro's team robs a bank, only to lose lives and booty in a nerve-racking shootout on the street. Just when it looked as though the crime genre might atrophy into cold pastiche. Heat applies the heat.

After the gruelling misogy-ny and slapdash plotting of Kika, you may be forgiven for flinching from another film by Pedro Almodóvar. But The Flower of my Secret proves that you should never cast a director into darkness forever. Not that the Spanish iconoclast has abandoned his zany tricks or his fashion sense. Though the tones may be muted, every dress, bead and wall still contribute to a unique colour symphony. The disorientated heroine on the surface another of Almoddvar's women on the verge of a nervous breakdown, favours

strong primary colours; blues and reds. The walls might be peach, or some pastel shade. Room is found, too, for bizarre diversions: a screaming contest on TV: a training session to help doctors secure organs

> it has one - is the condition of Leo (subtly portrayed by Marisa Paredes), an authoress of escapist trash. Her first problem is physical: she can-

in place of the usual gaudy caricatures. Almodóvar's main characters almost appear to be real people and. as Leo and her new-found male friend, a roly-poly publisher, blend minds, hearts and, in some senses, genders, our own hearts are warmed. Almodóvar still has his fun in The Flower of My Secret, but he is no longer just a child

The writers were tread-Sabrina when they daughter: "It's the Nineties. with his film of the same name none too sparkling, though Audrey Hepburn, Humphrey Bogart and William Holden manufacture fizz.

Ford is dull, ice-cold. Some of feeling as Sabrina enters his either. Whatever spark she showed in First Knight has been snuffed out by the glamour machine. The director is Sydney Pollack (see interview right); watching this lumberhe ever made Tootsie, one of

began with higher ambitions

than magazine fiction to be read under a hairdrier; but its development is so bald and the colours so glossy that maga-zine fiction is the result. The actor Forest Whitaker directed, although the names that matter are Angela Bassett. who gives the only meaty performance, and singer Whitney Houston, whose presence almost turns the film into a soundtrack CD with

The Innocent Sleep, a British film, self-financed by 27vest-old director Scott Michell and his team, makes you wonder how fresh young heads can harbour such stale ideas. Little is original in this story about the hunt for an innocent witness to murder. Michael Garnbon, the leering heavy, took his performance down from the shelf, dust included. Annabella Sciorra's chain-smoking, ballsy reporter is another unhappy cliché. Any novelty arises from Rupert Graves, usually found draped round a sofa in some Merchant-Ivory film. Now he lives in Cardboard City, and stumbles round barely distin-

og and rubble. Still, you cannot help admiring the movie for not giving in script fatigue. Michell. whose last film experience was driving Elizabeth Hurley to work for Bevond Bedlam, shows undoubted talent, and generates a few sparks from hackneyed situations. But next time, chaps, don't waste your time reviving a corpse.

guishable from the London

John Hannah, wasted in The innocent Sleep as a bantering colleague of Sciorra, also appears in Chris Newby's infuriating Madagascar Skin. Newby is a master designer of curious and lyrical images: Anchoress and his shorts prove that. But dramatic momentum is not his line, least of all in this whimsical titbit commissioned by the British Film Institute. Two characters meet on a deserted beach. Hannah, haunted and tentative, has a facial birthmark shaped like Madagascar. Bernard Hill, a breezy rascal, is buried up to his neck in the sand. Moves are made toward a gay relationship, but instead of nurturing his characters Newby lets them fend for themselves among the cryptic imagery. The film, you soon realise, could stop at any time, or last forever.

Sonke Wortmann's The Most Desired Man. a local hit in Germany 18 months ago. barrels along pleasantly enough with a story culled from two gay comic books. Not that the film is pitched at homosexual audiences: the plight of Til Schweiger's heterosexual hero, who shelters from his girlfriend's wrath in the apartment of a gay acquaintance, is played for broad, general comedy. Hollywood has shown interest in a remake, so beware.

Making Cinderella less Wilder

ven though he had a great time directing it. Sabrina is both the first and last remake Sydney Pol-lack intends to undertake. "I anticipated, of course, that the sons with the original, but I didn't realise it would be so impossible for the film to be judged independently," he

who really love the movie feel obliged to qualify their praise with 'Dare I say it, but ...? "The New York Times said it was a kamikaze undertaking. but that the film ran so hard over the Billy Wilder version that it ran right through and

says. "Even some reviewers

made it to the other side. "Tough as remakes are. though, I feel that Sabrina has marvellous mythical story elements that bear telling over and over. It is enough of a fairytale to be told in many different ways, and I wanted to make it in a Nineties way. just as the original movie belonged to its own era, the last years of Hollywood inno-

centre "I actually refused, the first two or three times Paramount talked about doing it. I didn't want to do a remake and I sure as hell didn't want to do a remake of a Wilder film. But then Harrison Ford, whom I admire and who was attached to the project, asked me to look

at the old movie again. "Sometimes when you start to analyse the problems in a screenplay you get hooked on finding the solution; and that's what got me involved in this case. I realised that Humphrey Bogart was the least explored character in the original film and the most contemporary. I felt that Harrison could make something of the role if it was properly written

The problem was how to build a romantic situation around tough, mean people. I got interested in the idea of a film that would be indebted to the spirit of Fifties romantic comedies, but have a Nineties edge to it. "I realised the tougher the

male character was, the more interesting the relationship became. I said to Harrison, 'Let's see if we can give this real neeth, if we can make him a really mean guy, who is fundamentally changed by the relationship."

This was inherent in the original stage play, which is less about the girl's Cinderella story than about the way she changes the lives of the two men. I went to see the play's author. Samuel Taylor, who is 83 and sharp as a tack - very hip. He had worked on the original film script with Wilder and Ernest Lehman.

Taylor kept urging me not

When Sydney Pollack remade Sabrina, a lot of ghosts got in the way, he tells David Robinson

to be intimidated by the original. 'It's got a life of its own,' he said. You make your own version.' He came to New York to work with us. His energy was phenomenal. By the end of the day David Rayfiel and I would be exhausted and he was still thinking up new scenes. He would propose changes so wild that they shocked me. We didn't use many of his suggestions, but he stimulated us

tremendously. "He came to the premiere and was just touched as hell. He loved it because it was a completely fresh approach. He

calls quite often to ask how the

film is doing, and is even thinking about turning it into a musical".

Wilder's own approach seems also to have been encouraging, if more guarded than the writer's. "Of course I called him before agreeing to do it." Pollack says. wouldn't have done it without his blessing. I sent him the script and spent a long afternoon chatting with him. We talked a lot about the problems of updating the story. what works today and what doesn't. We didn't talk in pageby-page terms, but in a philo-

sophical way I spent the whole day with

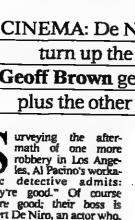
him when we showed him the film. It wasn't easy for either of us, but he was wonderful, very encouraging, very easy. He understood what I was trying to do. When he saw the picture He said. This is hard for me and for you. You'll see one day. when someone will try to remake The Way We Were. You'll not find it an easy thing to watch.' But he said: 'lt's good, pretty good. From Wilder that was big praise.

"I didn't want to make a Billy Wilder film, and I couldn't. He has a special. amazing genius — acid wir. irony and a unique sense of drama. I didn't want to try to compete with Wilder and I didn't want my actors to have to compete with Audrey Hepburn and Bogart. I wanted to make a different movie: and I think we've done that."



Sydney Pollack, director of Sabrina: "I got interested in the idea of a film that would be indebted to the spirit of Fifties romantic comedies, but have a Nineties edge to it





urveying the after-math of one more

wastes a gesture, and keeps you riveted by his eyes alone. The film is Heat. It lasts

his two stars together, like fighting cocks, as soon as the credits roll. Mann, bouncing back after the absurd melange of The Last of the Mohicans. keeps them separate, explor-ing their private circumstances. Pacino's life is chaotic. De Niro's a void. Pacino's third marriage fragments as his wife is squeezed out by his work and the tension needed to keep him "sharp, on the edge". De Niro prides himself on having no ties, until he meets a budding graphic de-signer (Amy Brennemann) who finds strength in his silence.

a scene, their first ever in a movie, the tone is low-key. almost comic. They chat in a coffee-shop. They talk about dreams. "So you never wanted a regular-type life? Pacino asks. Like hunter and prey in westerns and war dramas, both sides show respect. Both sides also know what fate and duty have in store.

Stripped to its bones, Heat may sound trite. But Mann puts so much flesh on his characters that you never feel hungry. Aside from Pacino and De Niro, the side dishes are equally tasty. As De Niro's henchmen and associates, Val Kilmer, Jon Voight and Tom Sizemore all make their mark.

Marisa Paredes as the woman on the edge of a nervous

breakdown in Almodovar's The Flower of my Secret

NOW SHOWING

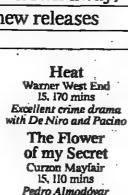
EDINBURGH CAMEO - DUBLIN IFC

A MINOR MASTERPIECE.

alloon

WINNER DE

STARTS



Antique Cinderella story Waiting to Exhale

Unsubtle drama of female camaraderie

MGM Haymarket 15, 99 mins Madagascar Skin

Very artistic. very infuriating The Most Desired Man MGM Swiss Centre

sexual identity "Just when it seemed the crime genre might atrophy into cold pastiche, Heat applies the heat": Robert De Niro and Val Kilmer in Michael Mann's cops and robbers caper

for transplant. But at the film's heart - and

not pull off her boots. Then her fiction turns dark and twisted: her marriage to an absent husband, serving with Nato, reaches a crisis, and the support systems of family and friends are failing. Almodóvar gently explores her isolation. savouring the paradoxes of life, allowing comedy when required: a welcoming, tender sentiment, too, especially when the heroine returns to her village roots for sustenance from Mother Earth.

thumbing his nose at the

ing on thin ice in let Harrison Ford's businessman tell Julia Ormond, the chauffeur's Sabrina." It so patently is not: and the Cinderella romance that furnished Billy Wilder refuses to suit the times. Even 40 years ago the material was made it appear so. The present cast are in no position to

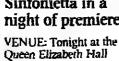
of the chill may suit the character - a bachelor in a midlife crisis - but surely he should demonstrate a twinge heart. Ormond has no allure ing dinosaur you wonder how

the best modern comedies. If no audience exists for Sabrina, Waiting to Exhale has one almost panting at the door. They are young, female and identify easily with the film's black women, whose lives are devoted to talking about sex. having it. and visiting the beauty parlour. The film, based on Terry McMillan's novel, no doubt



■ CHOICE I

Oliver Knussen leads the London Sinfonietta in a night of premieres





CHOICE 2

.. and Kurt Weill's Love Life receives its European premiere VENUE: Tonight at the Grand Theatre, Leeds

THE



■ CHOICE 3

Graham Greene's Travels with my Aunt is staged in Glasgow VENUE: Opens tonight



CHOICE 4

First night for -Naomi Wallace's violent new play," Slaughter City VENUE: From tonight at the Barbican Pit

LONDON THE MAVERICKS Amarica's hottest country band hocks off a UK four language. howing off their inspirations from its pallads of Roy Orbison, Tony Bennett Saliates on rely Cloroson, Tony perintar-style Coording and myre pleantable role models such as Bluck Owens if is a formula which has put the band in the forefrom of a wave of modern acts, moving country music back to its rightful plane at the heart of mainstream reporter movel. Whether nghibi place of the main or man server sopplar music Yes-ha.
Shepherde Bush Empire. W12 (0181-740 7474), Jongh and Fr. then Norwich, University of East Angle (01603 505407). Jan 28 Manchester University (01016-1275 2930). Jan 29 Gangow Royal Concert Hall (0141-725 5511). July 10

227 5511 Jun 30 EXPLORATIONS 96 Oliver Churson sta the Lancon Sinterpetts champion some of the involved new voices from Europe and the US in tenght is concert. Carolled to promises

Our of Electron Hull, South Bank
SEJ (0171 960 4242) 7 45pm (5) SLAUGHTER CITY 'Dening night or a new play — wolent, surreal and set in a slaughter-house — by Norm Williase, the excellent American poet and prayment whose One Fles Spane played at the Bush last argumn. Bon Const. (dening Cornels deects
PR, Barbscan, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-628 8931) Tonight 7pm: Then Fir-Tue,
7 15pm, mat Sat, 2pm 🔊

E COMPANY Advant Laster, Shella 3::: Suphra Thompson in an escellent stegring of Sondheim's bitterstreet musical on manage, pro and contra. Domnar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-399 1732). Non Sat. 7 30pm; mats Wed and Sat. 30m.

THE FIELDS OF AMERICAN

the woman set to be his next "ci

THE GLASS MENAGERIE SOM Mendes's radiant production. Zoe Winnamaker and Claire Skinner play mother and daughter; Ben Walden is Ton.

Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) Mon-Sal, 7 30pm, Sal, 3pm

AN IDEAL HUSBAND Trumphant

worsee Hainto tonings rope to an impar-ary across Predictable, rose-brisis drama, director, John N. Smith MGNar: Beluer Street (0171-938 9772) Cholsea (0171-352 5096) Odeonic Kensington (01426 914666) Swiss Cettage (01426 914096) West End (01426-918 574) UCI Whiteleys \$10171-792 3332)

FAIR GAME (15) Laughable acron

PAIR GAME 10: Laughable acnon vehicle for model Cray Crawford, cast as an afformer in part With Wilhelm Boldwin Director, Andrew Sipes MGM Trocedero © (0171-434 0031) UCI Writteleys © (0171-792 3332) Warmer © (0171-437 4343)

LEAVING LAS VEGAS (18) Nicolas

Figgis Yhim Elisabeth Shue Barbless (T. 1988)

E (0171 457 4343)

Caoa danks houself to death. Striking

Pages With Elisabeth Shue Barblean (§) (0171-638 8891) Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3233) MGB/Iss Pullison Road (0171-370 3636) Haymarket (0171-839 1527) Striss Centre (0171-329 4470) Notting HID Coronet (§) (0171-727 6765 Ribay (0171-732 2121) Screen/ Balan Street (0171-935 2772) Winner

Saker Street (0171-935 2772) Warner

wiresses a lilm studio munde Emilarating and cheeky limiter set in Moscow, with Martia Suding, Director

Antrony Waler Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323: Warner & (017:-437 4343)

PERSUASION (U) Jane Austen's

MUTE WITNESS (18) Mula girl

eturn for Peter Hall's production of

NEW RELEASES

Daves conducts Grand, New Briggare (0)13-244 0971/ 285 9351) Tonigni, 7 15pm &

by Joel Higgins, amo also stars as state executioner who falls in love with Music by Martin Silvestin One US rowswer called it "original, compelling Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) Mon-Saz 7 45pm; mars Wed and Sat, 3pm (5) and tun" Aldwych, Strand, WC2 (0171-418 6049) New previousing tonight-Jan 30, 7 45pm, mai Set, 3pm. Opens Jan 31 DIRUPERT STREET LONGLY
HEART'S CLUB Friat weak kir
Jonathan Harvey's droughtful and
passonase play, sell in an east London
bedsit where most of the characters. ☐ FUNNY MONEY Ray Cooney plays the man who finds a bag of bank-notes in his latest larce. Rodings Banes is the screly-used tax-driver. Playhouse. Northumberland Avenue. WC2 (0171-839 4401), Mon-Sai, 8p mats Thurs, 3pm and 5ar, 5pm

Stanley Spender, the parties whose desired connections with recommendered connections with recommendered New hoographical play by Parties John Card deeds.

National (Cottestion), South Bank, SE 10171 (932 233); Previews tonight-Jan 31, 7 Jüpm. Opens Feb 1 18 TWO TRAINS RUNNING: Jorgey

GLASGOW. The Crizen's opens its spring season with a free previous longist of Graham Greene's effervescent. Travels with my Aunt, Gdes Havergal directs one of the Crizons company a s, Gorbels (0141-429 0022)

Tonight, 7 30pm, Opens tomorrow then. Tue-Sat, 7 30pm, Until May 23 2 IPSWICH: Oliver Ford Drawas and Ouese Fincher play John Ogdon and his wife in William Humble: S Virtuoso, retling of the prants is 1973 breakdown and what happened after BRISTOL Suprano Catherine King and the excellent pentils Wayne Marshall open the BBC's functione Russan sense today with an entertaining selection of works by Strawnsky \$1 George's, Brandon Hill (0117 923 0359) Today, Ipm Wolsey, Cwc Brive (01473 253725) Opens tonight, 7 45pm Then Tue-Fn. 7 45pm, Sal, 8pm, mass Wed, 2 30pm, Sal 4pm Umil Feb 10 LEEDS Love Life, Kurt Welf's Tost' Broadway musical, gets its European premises by Opers North tonight R's a show years ahead of its time (1948) about manage but manage seen through 150 years of American history and with a vaudeville team commenting andly from the seletims. Book and tyrus as by the much-manned Alan Jay Lomer and Welf and Lote Lemys divorced and re-manted (so it's kind of personal). For good measure thate any bogs of great times along the way Mangarel Priceos and Alan Cike sing the leads, Caroline Gawin directs and Wyn Davies conducts.

LONDON GALLERIES Barbican: Diagnier Creator of the Ballets Russes (0171-638 4141)
British Massetam Ciryo and Pyoto paintings (0171-636 1555) National Gallety Paintings from National Trust Houses (0171-747 2885) National Portrait Gallety Richard and Mana Coeway (0171-306 0055) Royal Academy Dand Hockney Drawing Reference (0171-439 7433) Tatte Bill Woodrow, Fools' Gold, 15 bronge statues (0171-887 8000) V & A. Jan Art from India, Expressionist Prints Art from India, Expressionist Prints (3171-938 8509) Whitechape) Emil Nolde (9771-522 7889)

THEATRE GUIDE

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts

compiled by Krls Anderson

ELSEWHERE

Jeremy Kingston's assessmer of theatre showing in London House full, returns only
Some septs available
Seats at all prices

have love poubles Oriterien, Piccacilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) Tonghi-Sat, Spm, Sun, 7pm; mass Sal, 4pm and 3un, 3pm,

Jules, Tony Armatracing and George Harms are among the strong sast for the latest of August Wison's decalogue of plays about 20th-century black

Americans. Set in 1969 Pittsburgh, in a restaurant due to be demolished Pauline Randall directly Tyteyche, Kilburm High Road, NW6 (1)171-328 (000) Prenews begin lonight, 8pm lopens Jan 39, 7pm 📳 SWEETHEART New play by Mich Peaches: Joe Dutting in the title rate of the much-loved but leokless and usually

Blast Charlie Upstaire, Royal Court Stoane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745) Previews bogin tonight, 7,45pm, opens Jain 30, 7pm THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS Jeremy Sindon plays the ebulier's Toad in the now annual return of the flational Theatre production Still deligniful Old Vie, Waterloo Road, SET (0171-928 6655) Mon-Sal, 7 30pm; mass Wed. Sal, 2,30pm (6) LONG RUNNERS

USMG HUNNERS

□ Buddy Shand (0171-930 8800)
□ Cracy for You Prince Educard (0171-734 8951)
□ Deed Guilty Apolic (0171-494 5070)
□ Farmer The Businsi, Cambridge (0171-494 5083)
□ Miss Seigon Druy Lane (0171-494 5083)
□ Businsi, Cambridge (0171-494 5083)
□ Businsi (0171-494 5083)
□ Businsi (0171-494 5083)
□ Shanel (0171-494 5085)
□ Sunset Businsin' Adelphi (0171-344 0055)
□ The Women in Busin Fortuna (0171-496 2919)
Telet intermetion suched by Society

CINEMA GUIDE

Amanda Root Director, Roger Michell Barbican (2) (0171-538 6991) THE UNDERMEATH (15) The classic 1940s shallor Class Cross randog as a stylesh puzzle by disector Sleven Soderbergh With Pener Gallagher Model Sunthnessury Avenue (1171-436 6279) Plaza (§ 10171-437 1234) Ritay (0171-737 2121)

CURRENT DEVIL IN A BLUE DRESS (15) Spiendidy atmosphere three with Cenzel Washington as the ordinary Joe in late 1940s Los Angeles stumbling n West End (0171-369 1722)

THE HORSEMAN ON THE ROOF 115) Love and nerosm amidst a shoors epidemic in 1630s Provence Proti, pictures, but little comph. Jean-Paul Hazzer sau directs Oliver Matteres and Juliene Binoche Chelses (0171-351 3742) Curton Mayteir (0171-363 1720) Lumiere

(0171-836 0691) Odeon Kenshigton (01426-914 666) Richmond (0181-232

THE RUN OF THE COUNTRY (15) Widowed latter and son tracile and the and love Faced Instributions with Albert Finney and US import Mad. Fiorefat Directed by Paler rates, Odeon Kennington (01426 914666)

General Nationagers 1014-26 at 14000 y

68YEN (18) Unsertaing and off-beat small safer strates, with Morgan Freeman and Brad Par Director Devid Frincher Beatsloam (2) (2) 171-38 8891)
Clapham Picture House (0) 171-398 3223 Garte (2) (7) 171-77 4043) MGMac Chreines (0) 171-370 2536 Testhemmer Court Rosel (0) 171-380 5148 Delegation (1) 4889 Leisenter (1) Court Rosei (0171-836 5148) Odeons Kernsington (01426 914966) Lelcents Square (01426 915683) Series Cotta; (01426 914096) Ritary (0171-737 2121) Screen/Saler Street (0177-935 2772 Screen/Graen (0177-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys (0171-792 3332)

SIRLS (18) Las Vecas simple finds success is not everything Hallow late of hollow people, brazent, presented by director Paul Verhoeven MGMac Balker Street (0171-935 9772) hom (0171.35? 5095) Oct on (01276 914686) Ma Arch (01426 914501) States Co 101426 914099) West End 101426 915574: UC: Whiteleys & 10171-792

+ SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT (15) Lide Roberts as a southern wife leading for husband's infideliny Taking tale with small pleasures. Lasse Half strom arrests Dennis Quaid Rope Stein arters transcribed notes: Control Print Sedgmon, Gerta Portraind; Müllet Fulhem Reed (§ 10171-1370 2536) Trocaders (§ 10171-133 9031) Octoon Settles Cottage 101406 914098) UCI Whiteleys (§ 10171-132 3332) Wanter (§ 10171-1374) 3332, Wanter (§ 10171-1374)

Painting on a broader canvas

VISUAL ART: Charles Hall finds a 'dead' discipline alive and on show in Liverpool

like David Leapman's drawing: I like his fussy, curly, rather bouncy line, and the diffident way it sinks back into his painting's dark background. On the other hand, most of the time I have no idea what it is he thinks he's drawing. Apparently the images in Doubletongued Knowability are all about sex. Well, perhaps they are, but I'm not at all sure that it really matters.

The painting has picked up the £20,000 first prize in the nineteenth John Moores Exhibition in Liverpool because Leapman really knows how to occupy a canvas. The four ovals (each filled by brightly coloured rectangles) provide the bold superstructure for all that nervous doodling, while the drawing helps to bind those apparently autonomous geometric forms into a precarious, spidery tension.

The John Moores is Britain's only national open-submission exhibition for "progressive" contemporary art. This time round there were 1,644 entries. The judges were the painter Basil Beattle. the painter and writer Timothy Hyman. Alex Kidson of the Walker Art Gallery, and the art historian and critic, Frances Spalding.

I wonder if the judges knew, when they selected it, that Leapman's use of various kinds of luminous paints means that the composition alters radically when viewed under ultra-violet or infra-red lights? Probably they did - it is hung in a little ghetto of highly sophisticated paintings that tease you with the possibility that they are about to unburden themselves of some great metaphysical truth. That takes its most literal form in Mark Wallinger's canvas, a grid of letters which turns out to read: "What have I done to deserve you? The question is perhaps less apt than another in the same series, "What do you hope to get out of me?", but then I think Wallinger would enjoy the banality.

A YEAR ago this week, Gerry Anderson and Radio 4 parted company. So extraordinary was the saga of Anderson Country that on Sunday, Mediumwave, the Radio 4 media programme, saw fit to mark the anniversary.

It did so via a diatribe by Anderson himself and the genial humour did little to camoullage the bitterness, Interestingly. Anderson took up the theme that he had been done down by middle England, the listener lobby that regards Radio 4 as its own. Anderson Country drew 16.000 critical letters to FeedSaid to be all about sex: the John Moores award-winning Double-tongued Knowability, by David Leapman

Other artists are more subtle: Brad Lochore shows an apparently abstract grey and black image which turns out to be derived from the shadow of a ladder. Our struggle to attribute solid form to what turns out to be an effect of pure light condenses around the fact that the ladder, as a tool for passing from one level to another, is a perfect metaphor for the possibilities of - well. of metaphor in painting.

it is no accident that so many of the paintings in this part of the exhibition are as beautiful as they are intelligent. With its use of photorelated imagery and computerised printing techniques. James Brook's Road (With Raindrops, Eye), very nearly steps outside what one could conventionally accept as

But this is a generation that has had to overcome its own conceptual hostility to painting in order to pick up a brush: they have been seduced into it, and their love of the material and its processes shows through in immaculate craftsmanship and disciplined subtlety of application.

Since there are so few shows devoted to painting, it is tempting to see the John Moores as a survey of contemporary developments - and then to take issue with its omissions. But we can never know who was rejected and

who was too grand to enter. It's more useful simply to enjoy the exhibition as an opportunity to look closely at the kinds of painting that have fallen by the critical wayside.

The tense pink neck of the woman in Lucy Jones's Anniversury is the best thing she's painted in years, while Paul Gopal-Chowdhury's In the Realm of the Senses looks like a personal breakthrough, establishing a formal grammar which allows him to consider urban sleaze without indulging in the voyeurism he sets out to criticise.

Artists who have never doubted the tradition of painting may well never have asked themselves such hard ques-

tions about their motivation as reluctant converts such as Wallinger or Lochore. But formal curiosity is not restricted to the avant-garde: it's just that the intelligence at work in a painting by Leonard McComb or Hughie O'Donoghue does not register on the contemporary critical radar.

Until we make space for works like theirs, we won't have understood the problems and possibilities that continue to make the "dead" art of painting one of the liveliest and most contentious fields in British art.

The John Moores Liverpool Exhibition at the Walker Art Gallery (0151-207 0001), until

Country killed by shires

RADIO

back, an unprecedented outpouring for a single programme. On Sunday. Ander on was undaunted: "I have had my life threatened by paramilitaries - now that's what I call radio criticism".

Yet those letters, and scores sent to me. say something important about radio as a medium. Television mostly measures the success of a programme through viewing figures. Radio, on the other hand, is an intimate medium.

THE OPERA

Sime

The audience figures for Anderson Country were not that much lower than for The Afternoon Shift. Indeed, my own postbag showed that the hardcore Radio 4 audience prefers lobbying to get the schedule changed rather than

voting with its tuning fingers. Anderson now has a daily radio show in Northern Ireland, where he has always

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401

/0171 420 0000/0171 344 4444 SYLVIA SYNEE, HENRY MARKET

LYNDA BARON

TREVOR BANGSTER

MAY COONEY, WETER ELLIS RON ALDREGGE 1 MODNEY BEWES IN RAY COONEY'S

MIN COMEDY HIT

FUNNY MONEY

CRAZY FOR YOU

FROM 22 MAY 1996

STRATFORD (0178) 235823)

Better Bart Fayo

MENATED BEST COMEDY THE OLIMENT AWARDS "LAUGHS GALORS... A WINNEY DED

been immensely nonular. The belief in Broadcasting House is that, like the England cricket team, he does not travel very well. I hope that is all there is to it, but I suspect that Anderson was too irish

for Middle England. Sunday's Mediumwave, by coincidence, had another example of the way the British react to people and events depending on the extent of their foreignness. Why, asked the programme, has the Western media been kinder to Chechen terrorists than it would ever be to others?

Mediumwave brought in Jon Snow of Channel 4 News to provide the answer. The critical focus of coverage here has been on the Russian army and Boris Yeltsin because we still see Russia in terms of the old Communist bogey.

A second factor is that the Chechens welcomed the media, whereas Russian army personnel appear to have about as much media savvy as the Duchess of York.

PETER BARNARD

ENTERTAINMENTS ART GALLERIES

LARGE MUSEUM FROM RUSSIA ROY MILES GALLERY. 29 Brutog Street, W1

orld of Drawings Vatercolours

from 1600 to the present day - all for sale Lectures 25 January

Watercolour Surgery 27 January

Park Lane Hotel Piccadilly, London W1

24 - 28 January ilam — 8pm 7pm last two days Admission £7.00

> Information: 0181 995 1488

DANCE

1

SADLER'S WELLS 0171 713 8000 CORAZON FLAMENCO Respectiving. She beet purity to towar Gdn Until 10 Feb Even 7.30, Set 3.6 6 55420

CIRCUSES

THOREM FT CALD ME ROYAL ALBERT HALL FINAL WEEK !

24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL (1171 344 0055 (blog fee) GRP BOOKING 412 3302 (blog fee) booking fee for Adelpis Box Office Callers AMBASSADORS 236 8:11

0171 420 1000 OPERA & BALLET COLISCIA (1)71 82 8300 (241) ENGLISH RATIONAL OFFIA Ton 17:30 THE PEARL FISHERS TORRO 7.30 THE MAGIC PLUTE

LA BOHENE. The Centenery Production. Fully staged in the Round with interretured used. Played Albert Hall - February 1st-10th Tickets £13.50 - £37.00 Box Office 0171 589 8212 ROYAL OPERA HOUSE (1171 304 4000 for Box Off & Stanctby and

Tickets available on the day
The Royal Opens Set 7 (0) THE NOISUMBER MAINTAGE Tue 7:30 (First Night) SAMSON ET DALKA The Royal Ballet Ton't, Tonor, Mon, Vied 7.30 THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

THEATRES

ALDWYCH 60 & oc 0171 416 6048 (no blog fee) on 344 4444 Grps 0171 930 5123418 60754413 3321 The FIELDS of AMBROSIA A New Musical

A sturning score* Sheridan Morte,
Evan 7.45 mate Wed 6 Set 3.00

No met 31 Jan. Extra met 2 Feb PICE DIVING NEW OPERS WAR 7.00 SOME SEATS AVAILABLE WALLES FOR WAS STATED SUNSET BOULEVARD of 7 Tony Ama including BEST MUSICAL

PETULA CLARK sabon 0171 373 BBB Mon-Set 7 45 Mats Thur & Set 100

TRAINSPOTTING Property March Income Whitehall Theatre 0H71 388 1735/344 4444 2000 Eves 8, Mars Thu 3, Set 5 & 9.15 JENNY SEAGROVE HAYLET MILLS

DEAD CUILTY Richard Harts' new play is THE PERFECT THRILLER'S TIME MECORD-BREAKING NUM EXTENDED TO MARCH 15 APOLLO VICTORIA & \$17: 416

6055 oc 2010 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321 ndrew Lloyd Webbs New production of STARLIGHT EXPRESS A REBORDE THEATRICAL DELICAT Dely Med to knuckie russ 1945 (22 Tue & Sat 1500 Tickets from \$12.50

APOLLO LABATTS AMMERISMETH (1771 416 -1066 or 344 4444/423 0000 (+ broy lee) "AMERICW LLCYD WESTER BLOCKBUSTER 'SO JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT 用音包 小麻 油

CRITERION B/C 0171 369 1747) 344 4444

THE REDUCED

SHAKESPEARE CO

Opens March 5

COMEDY 80 5 cc 3:71 369 1731 cc 8171 429 (000 ing blog bas) ZOE WANAMAKER in HE CLASS MENACERIE SE WILLIAM Even 7.30 Math Set 3.00 LAMTED SEASON

CRITINGON 959 1747 544 4444 423 0000 JONATHAN HARVEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT RUPERT STREET

MUPBLET STANDIG:
LOWELY HEARTS CLU
"MICHAETY MANY: DEFENDING
INDESSARIA SALA SULJA 87
THE 2 SUN PERFORAT JA 77
100 REST SEATS STO ON DOOP DALY IN BEFORE PERF LAST WEEK DOSGREON Tickstones 5174 415

6080/0171 420 0000 (SKg Tale); Gros 3171 416 8075/4:3 3821, 42, 320 GREASE Slatting RICHARD CAUKIN Fast, futious & fun, fun, fun, Cody North Even 7:00 Mess Wed & Sac Soft TICKET'S AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE

DRUMY LANE THEATTE ROYAL \$454413 3311:312 done MISS SAICON THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF CUR TIME NOW 24 ITS 77H SENSATIONAL YEARS ves 7 45 Mars Nect & Set Sp lood much seed for their Mar A some perts - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL

CALLERS 0171 494 5080 (BKG FEE) **DUCHESS** on 0171 494 5077 on 344 4444 (no big teely \$2,000) (bug her 9171 413 3321 Eves 6pm, Wed mat NOW IN ITS 5th YEAR DON'T DRESS

FOR DINNER

BOOKINGS & PERSONAL

DURGE OF TOPICS 0171 635 5122,9837 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (24 trs. no 166) ROYAL COURT CLASSICS HYSTERIA

ery Johnson's "CUSTARO PIE CI Carriedy Officer Award
LAST WEEK From 1 February Dand Storey's epic THE CHANGING ROOM

FORTUNE SO LOC (17 535 HAYEL CAMPBELL PROPERTY. THE WOMAN IN BLACK

Adapted by Stephen Walterell
"A med that of borner" 5 Turns
NOW OF 175 7TH YEAR for-Sat Born Vasts Tues 3pm Set 4pr FORTUNE Cay Gots 0171 835 2236 MARIE

Housensted Boot Acress in a Maskail Other Awards 1996 EVERY SURDAY 3.38pm **GARRICK** 0171 494 5085 5171 312 :390 ino bkg feet WINDLER OF

NEVER FORCET The Royal Heritonal Therape production IS Prestley s AN INSPECTOR CALLS TH**rolling_Mus**t be seen" HOME OF THE MOST HTTDXICATING, THEATRICALLY

WINDLER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS

NAGOVATIVE EXPER OF THE 1990s ES "TWO HOURS OF STUNNING DRAMA"D.Tel MonFn 7 45, 5at 500 & 8 15, Wed met 2:30 **COFF. CRID 64 5765.744 4444** 422 0000 TOM COM

SHARON GLESS

IN HER SEROWS

CHAPTER TWO

HAYMARKET 930 8800 SE 344 4444/420 0000 (D/g 100) THE FETER HALL COMPANY Hartin Shaw Acce Carters Pensy Doursie Devid Yellen Michael Denison Duicle Gre Out MATCHLESS AN IDEAL HUSBAND

EVE: 7 S. Main Wild 5 Set 3 (0) 13 WEEKS ONLY HER MAJESTY'S 2419 454 5400 blog ten: CC 344 4444,420 2000 (blog ter: Grps 454 5464/413 3311,930 6123 Booking to 30 March 1996 Mon-Sat 7,30cm. ANDREW LLOYD WE AWARD WINNING MUSICAL

THE PHANTOM OF Directed by HAROLD PRINCE HOW BKG TO DEC 96 Apply to Box Office daily for returns LES MISERABLES LONDON PALLADAMI SO/CC

0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 86 serv | 170 420 0000 Gros 0171 312 8000 JUNE DALLE RETURNS TO THE WEST END "A MAJOR THE ATRICAL EVENT" Cary No. Until the interval LIMITED NO OF SEATS AVAIL DALLY FROM BOX OFFICE OLIVER' 240 SECTACIAAR YEAR YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE

Eves 730 Mets Wed & Set 230 SCRE GOOD SEATS AVAIL NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS MITTA UNESSETT BLOOD EROTHERS NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 SE STEPHANIE LAWRENCE STEFAN DEINGE CARL WAYN 252 Gras 077 639 074124v cc beg lea 077 420 0000 CLIVIER Ton I, Tomer 7.15 VOLPONE Ben Jonson and routing its approval." D Mel Eyes 7.45 Mets Thurs 3 Set 4 LYTTELTON Total Toron 7.30 COTTESLOE TON: Tomo

EW LONDON Druy Lane WC2 80 1171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24w 0171 344 4444 423 0000 Gps 0171 413 3311,930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEDGEN TS EXIT NTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNEYS MUSICAL

CATS Eves 7 45 Mais Tue & Set 3.00 WHILE AUCTORIAN S IN MOTION PLEASE BE PROMET Bars open at 645 LUMKTED MO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

OLD VIC 0171 925 1655/612 6004 The Royal Hadional Theatre's THE WIND IN THE WILLOW'S

UTTERLY ENCHANTING SMALL MASTERPIECE Day I "A WORLD FUL EVENING" "AN IRRESISTEME PIECE OF THEATRE"LNR

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 on 24hrs (big be) 017:-344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311

WINNER

BEST MUSICAL

BEST MUSICAL

Caroline O'Conner

JERRY HERMAN & MICHAEL

MACK & MARKE

Mon-Set at 7.45

2 (24hr no thig fee) First Cell 420 010 / 0171 344 4444 Groups 830 6123. WE WORLD'S MOST POPULA LEURICO CÉVIOR AMERICO (C) FOURD BE CRAZY TO MINEL IT NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD ENEARING TELES Eves 7.30 Mass Thu & Sec 2.30 TIS A GREAT, OLOR CLAMOROUS GOLDMANE OF SHOW S.Timbs Latecomers not admitted Even 7 45, Mais Thu & Set 3.00 BOOD SEATE AVAILABLE

THUS WELLS PHOENUX 80/CC 0171 369 1735 PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 548 First Call 420 0100 (24th Bug fee) 344 4444 Groups 420 0200 2344 44A4/420 0000 flag BEST MUSICAL Olivier, Drama Award: MARTIN CUERRE A New Musical by BOUGLE & SCHORGERG

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON LES ENFANTS OU PARADIS PICCADELLY 0171 369 1734 Teday 200 & 7.15
THE FIT: SLAUGHTER CITY at 20hrs 344 44 Gros 312 1970/413 3321 Ton 1.7.00

> ST. JALANS CAPSAR Today 13 ROMEO AND JULIET TON'T 7.50 THE DEVIL IS AN ASS TON 7.30 DISHONOUR Today 1.30

ST MATTERS 0171 605 442 im Ding test (0171 467 (5677 Abby feet) Groups 0171 312 1994 (no blog feet) Eves 8, Tues 245, Set 5 & 8 44th Year of Agethe Christe's THE MOUSETRAP

oc 0171 420 0100 tno tku lee ANGELA THORNE COMMUNICATING

DOORS
by ALAM AYCESCAMM
formatted Speet Countd
Official Assertia 1998 HRILLER WONDERFULLY FU AND GENUNELY SCARY" D. Tests the audience in turk ROARING WITH LAUGHTER AND LEAPING FORWARD IN FRIGHT"
Independent
Even 7:30 Marin Wed & Sat 3:00

Map-Sur 800, Mess Thu 300, Set 500 OPENS MONDAY SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5389 0171 344 4444 (2014/no bing fee) Groups 0171 413 3321 MINUSE EDWARD 0171 734 RES TOMMY

PAIA, KEATING KIM WE DE As Tommy As New Walton AS TORREY AS INTO TO AN EXTERNAL THREE THE AUGUST OUT OF ITS SEATON TO THE AUGUST OF THE SEATON TIME OF T STRAND THEATRE Box Off & co. (no tee) 0171 930 8800 cc (big lee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 930 6123

BUDDY The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun *BUDDY* WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel "BUDDY" Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fm 5.30 & 8.30 Sets 500 & 8.30, Summ 4.00

ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRES 30 PER TO HEAVENLY YEAR VALDEVILLE DITI 808 9987 CE 420 (000)(342 4444 (no dug les))
"For a sparkling, siteotomate
and hillations wanting to fine the RSC production THE SHAKESPRARE REVUE The Times
"This fauguty enjoyable who
Daily Telegraph
Mon-Fri 200pm Set 8.30pm

Meds Wed 2:30pm Sat 5:30pm WHITEHALL 369 1735/344 444/ BEST NEW MUSICAL ROY ORBISON STORY <u>GLEST-STARRING</u> P.J. PROBY V. PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF

Tues Thu B. Fri. Sat 520 & 820, Sun 4

VICTORIA PALACE BO & cc (no les) 0171 834 1317 cc (big tee) 0171 344 4444/312 1998/497 9977 Groups 0171 312 1997 (no les) (0171 930 6123 (toky fee)

> BRIAN CONLEY BEST ACTOR JOHN MENNETS

JOLSON

BEST MUSICAL

BEST SUPPORTING ARTISTE *JOLSON* "Worth walking a million and the world walking a million of the walking a million of the world walking a million of the w Evgs Mon-Set 7.30, Mats Wad & Set NOW BOOKING TO 28th SEPT

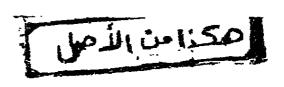
WYNERBUREN ONTO THE YORK (no blog fee) Manufacture for 6 Official Assertion WILLIAMS SKYLIGHT by DAYD HATE Drackd by RICHARD EVICE The sold-out production at the Royal Mational Theatre now transfers for 10 weeks only

WYNEHABIFS 369 1746/344 4444 CHEEK BY JOWL THE DUCHESS OF MALFI Simply Electrifying "independ Last 5 UK Performances Eves 7.20 Mets Thurs & Set 2.30

from 14 Feb

To advertise in this Section please call our Entertainments Team on 0171 481 1982 or fax 0171 481 9313

£. 1



3.35



MUSIC

Michael Tilson Thomas flourishes in San Francisco. but American orchestras struggle elsewhere



THEATRE 1

A new play, The Night of the Fox. goes nowhere slowly trying to define rape





THEATRE 2

. . while *Paper* Walls deals, more fruitfully, with abuse and murder inside the family home



OPERA

David Pountney makes a beautiful triumph of Aida in Munich, but the musical side is less impressive

CONCERT

Funky

feast

in a tin

FROM anarchic begin-

nings a decade ago, New York's Bang on a Can Festival has gained re-spectability in the con-

temporary music world,

First came a move from

its base in Lower Man-

hattan to the Lincoln

Center, then a recording

contract with Sony for the

festival's resident ensem-

ble, the Bang on a Can All-Stars. Now the Ali-

Stars tour widely, and on

Tuesday they were

warmly received at the

South Bank for the sec-

ond time in six months.

Bang on a Can was created by Michael Gor-

don. David Lang and

Julia Wolfe for compos-

ers, including them-

selves, too strange to fit into New York's polar-

ised uptown-downtown

music scene. Hardly any

two pieces the All-Stars

play are alike, but almost

all combine elements of

"classical" and rock

music. Appropriately, the

playing of this image-

conscious sextet - cello.

Bang on a Can

All-Stars

OEH

bass, saxophone, guitar,

piano, percussion mixes the precision of a

chamber group with the

Much of the Bang on a

Can repertory inhabits

an aggressive minimalist world, but unlike the

kind of amplified Muzak

which has crept into the

concert hall, these works

have something to say.

Lang's Cheating, Lying,

punch of a rock group.

Five go in search of their former glory

raditionally, the American orchestral scene was dominated by the Big Five — Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, New York and Philadelphia surrounded by a great mass of what the East Coast establishment smilfily referred to as the regional orchestras, which were constantly jockeying for position in the second rank. By 1990, during the waning days of the directorships of Sir Georg Solti in Chicago and

Zubin Mehta in New York, it was widely believed that those two orchestras, at least, had been eclipsed by some of the young upstarts, notably the St Louis Symphony under Leon-ard Slatkin, the orchestras of Los Angeles and San Francisco and, if one roamed a bit northward, Montreal.

Today, the Big Five is an almost meaningless category. Without question, the major event of this musical season in America was the inauguration of Michael Tilson Thomas as music director of the San Francisco Symphony. MTT. as he is known now, has brought a real sense of musical excitement to his native state, with innovative programmes that include at least one American composition each evening (when he is

conducting).
If Esa-Pekka Salonen has not produced quite the same seismic results with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, he has nonetheless honed the orchestra's playing and established it as a leading exponent of the international avant-garde. In the autumn, the orchestra will be in residence at the Theatre du Châtelet in Paris, performing, among other works, The Rake's Progress (which, it will be remembered, was comosed in Beverly Huls), pro duced by Peter Sellars.

Salonen's boyish, blond good looks have gone down very well in a city that loves a pretty face, but his Nordic reserve and penchant for "difficult" post-serialist music have kept the audience from embracing him very warmly. The roster of guest artists in Los Angeles this season has a strongly British slant, with appearances by Roger NorAmerica's top

orchestras are in danger of losing their

lustre, says **Jamie James**

rington, Oliver Knussen, Joan Rodgers, Evelyn Glennie, and ondes martenot player Cynthia Millar.

Slatkin, who built the St Louis Symphony into an orchestra of international stature (or so we are continually told) will replace Mstislav Rostropovich as director of the National Symphony Orchestra. in Washington, DC. Rostropovich attempted to bring the capital's orchestra into the front rank, and did not quite succeed. Perhaps Slatkin, whose organisational prowess is acknowledged as masterly even by those who find his conducting rather bland, will fare better in the city of bureaucrats. The Orchestras Formerly

Known as the Big Five are not in particularly brilliant shape today, compared with their glory days under the likes of Bernstein, Ormandy and Szell, yet neither are any of them in dire straits - with the possible exception of Chicago. where Daniel Barenboim's lordly airs and inconsistent conducting appear to be driving many (though not all) of the players to distraction.

Things have quietened

down a bit since he took over in 1991, when he was regularly excoriated by critics and members of the orchestra, but there are still persistent reports of low morale in the orchestra. Orchestra Hall is now undergoing a \$100 million acoustical renovation, although a recent concert performance of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg conducted by Solti sounded warm and glorious to these ears. Nonetheless, the CSO's executive director. Henry Vogel, claims to have the highest subscription rate of any orchestra in America.

probably the country's leading symphonic ensemble today. Christoph von Dohnanyi has made a number of key personnel changes, including a new concertmaster, William Preucil, and new principals for the second violins, double basses and horns. In the spring, the orchestra will embark on a European tour, which begins in London. On March 21, Dohnanyi will conduct a programme of Schumann, Stra-vinsky and Ligeri at the

Festival Hall. When Kurt Masur took over as music director at the New York Philharmonic five years ago, he was hailed as a saviour, restoring the orches-tra to its former glory after the near-shambles left behind by Zubin Mehta, who was never a favourite with the players. While the situation in New York is stable, and the orchestra continues to play well. some cracks are beginning to show. Masur's courtly, rather dullish podium presence has failed to endear him to a city that loves stars as much as Hollywood does, and the current season has not been an inspired one. When they have attempted to introduce a bit of pizzazz, the results have been something of an embarrassment, such as a concert in October of film scores conducted by John Mauceri, which featured film clips from Ben-Hur and the Errol Flynn Robin Hood.

The Boston Symphony seems to be in a solid position at the moment, though this is not one of its great periods. Seiji Ozawa has held the top post there since 1973, making him by far the most senior of major American music directors. At the age of 60, he has reached, and perhaps the point at which he must decide whether to look around for a new orchestra (but where?) or to stay in Boston and reap the benefits of his quarter-century association with the ensemble.

Philadelphia was thrown into an uproar three years ago when Riccardo Muti abruptly resigned as music director. When Wolfgang Sawallisch was chosen as his replace-



Michael Tilson Thomas, here conducting at a Miami gala. has revitalised the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra

However, since he took over in 1993, he has made a much deeper impact than had been cted. The orchestra has rallied round him, though has declined appreciably.

Sawallisch has made extensive personnel changes, hiring more principals than any music director since Leopold Stokowski, including a 27year-old concertmaster from Israel, named Erez Ofer, He has kept the orchestra playing at a consistently high level, but he is now 72 years old, and

ment, he was widely viewed as an interim, transitional figure.

nobody in Philadelphia seems to have a clue as to who will succeed him.

In the great mass of the second tier, the news is mostly ioniv. The death throes o the National Endowment for the Arts (America's equivalent to the Arts Council) is probably just a matter of time: a state of controlled panic has overtaken those institutions which do not have loyal, entrenched patrons and audiences. The Detroit Symphony. led by Neeme Jarvi, recently received an endowment grant of \$80 million from a consor-

tium of philanthropists, but

among those less fortunate. the chilling arts climate has produced some very strange programming and gimmicks.

in Houston, for example. where Christoph Eschenicaci continues to inspire excellent playing in the core German repertory, the orchestra has resorted to backing up pop performers. Even in conservative Philadelphia there are plans to install large screens in the hall to project close-ups of the musicians.

The height of absurdity may have been reached by the Oregon Symphony, under music director James De

Priest, which has scheduled a marathon concert cum murder mystery called Mozart till Midnight. The programme plays upon the premise of Shaller's Amaueus by including music by "composers contemporary with Mozart who hated him and might have wanted to kill him" Computer terminals are installed in the fuver of the hall which permit members of the audience to vote for culprits and also to communicate with the maestro, who apparently has nothing better to do in the interval than sit typing at a computer keyboard.

Stealing was dark and disreputable; menacing through a barrage of percussive effects in the central section of a tightly structured work. Its score carries the "ominous marking funk", and funk was also an inspiration behind the impatiently energetic followed. Wolfe's Lick. Both Lick and Sieve Martland's throbbing Horses of Instruction - a Blake title not explained - seemed numblingly repetitive

more impact if they had been shorter. The significance of the title in Louis Andriessen's Hour ("Wood") was also unclear, as the tightly-packed piece swirled with colour and energy like a Chinese dragon. No less virtuosity was required for an arrangement of the Brazilian jazz musician Hermeto Pascoal's Arapua ("Bumblebee"), and the players

and might have made

dispatched it with joy and Latin vigour. Different moods were explored in Martin Bresnick's The Bucket Rider, an austere, desolate piece inspired by Kalka's short story, and one of the composer's Opere delle musica povera". Most striking of all was Gordon's Industry, a cello solo based on the simplest of materials: a mournful lament gradually amplified into disioried electronic wailing. Maya Beiser played it with grinding intensity Unusually for a QEH concert, the encore was by Kurt Cobain.

JOHN ALLISON

THEATRE: In a suburban dream home, abuse and outrage fester in flimsy disguise. Plus, a moral hunt that cannot find its prey Unsafe as

houses

Carlet Theatre's surreal playlet opens just out-side a structure that looks a bit like a Wendy house and a bit like a bathing hut and is clearly means to denote flimsiness, vulnerability and claustrophobia-inducing confinement. For a few minutes three woman simply come and go, glassy grins fixed on their faces. But then a finger starts drawing on the tiny window below the toyshop eaves. "Please help." it writes.

Is this an Ayekbournian cry for help from a parody subur-ban home? Is Scarlet Theatre demonstrating the awfulness of the ordinary? When Grainne Byrne, Christine Entwisle and Jan Pearson are trooping off to the DIY shop in uniform red jackets, or trying to repair the roof of their funny little house without sliding off, it might seem so. But Alice Power and Alice Purcell, the joint director-designers, have

Paper Walls Purcell Room

something stronger in mind. The exaggeratedly ordinary is camouflaging the outrageous. The hints proliferate: a yell

of "I can't stand this any more", obscure references to a man called Tom, sounds of scuffles, and, black-comic style, a procession to the dustbin of parcels variously emblazoned "goldfish". "bud-gie", "kitten". "rabbit". "dog". Things are clearly escalating inside the house. A weird electronic screaming is followed by a couple of gunshots. The house splits open to reveal a kitchen, a Mad-Hatter breakfast and only the three women to eat it. As the rest of the play proceeds to make clear, an abusive husband and father has been killed by his wife and daughters.



Dread: Jan Pearson. Grainne Byrne, Christine Entwisle

The play is apparently based on real events in the North: but you would hardly guess so from the company's style, which relies mainly on dumbshow and eschews specific accusation for a general evocation of stress and silent suffering. That is the evening's limitation, but also strength. If it were surrounded by loads of verbiage, you might not feel the danger inherent in an event as tiny as the dropping of the master-ofthe house's boiled egg. What the company success-

fully catches is the dread it is salest to conceal, the pretence of normality that has to be sustained by means of smiles. desperate jokes, anything. Certainly, the evening provides the definitive answer to those who still suspect the London Mime Festival of being an excuse for fey figures in body-stockings to do clever tree imitations. Paper Walls is as deft as it should be: but it carries a punch too.

Superficial wounds

R andy has just been released from the slammer. He was sent down seven years ago, found guilty of raping a girl at her 14th birthday party. This new play by Peter Briffa opens with Randy's former Oxford University pals nervously awaiting his arrival. They gather on the patio of the respectably acred farm inherited by Shona, once a bit of a goer but long since settled with Nigel, student revolutionary turned gentleman farmer.

The tension ought to be sky-high. Lucy, who is both Randy's ex and the rape victim's sister, has suddenly turned up. shakily chain-smoking, propositioning left, right and centre, and possibly suicidal. Tom, whose gay lover has recently died, is chronically uptight and depressed about others having sex lives. Meanwhile Dick, now a businessman, rolling up with his younger girlfriend Helen, puts BENEDICT everybody's back up being brash and boring. He also happens to have brought a

The Night of the Fox Lilian Baylis, NI

gun, to hunt down the local

hen-snatching fux. of course.

Briffa's drama should be provocative. Randy's visit essentially sparks an angry row about definitions of rape. Only it is hardly a debate. Randy delivers his radical "anti-feminist" arguments in large slabs. His logic, moreover, is crudely muddled. We are told this man has been clocking up first-class degrees. Standards must be slipping. Generally, the characters' conversations are banal or corny. Sometimes this is clearly intended to be satirical, but nobody seems sure when the writing is switching between farce and seriousness.

There is comic potential. Dick (tiny but thrusting Richard Lord) is briefly entertaining, pontificating pompously and telling the problem fox:

Some drag their feet, while Barry Cooper (here in his second Shammas production) hurriedly blunders through Randy's speeches. Vivien Gregory gives a commendably relaxed performance as the pregnant Shona, but every body else's nerves are superficially portrayed. The play attempts to depict people with split attitudes. Randy keeps saying he is guilty and sorry, then pro-

"We are no longer prepared to

tolerate that sort of behav-

iour." But Sam Shanimas's

poorly directed cast are awk-

wardly static and unpaced.

claiming his innocence and being unbelievably insensitive. Perhaps he is a psychopath but Cooper conveys no sense of manja or menace, so his schizophrenic statements are merely confusing. The implication that Lucy and Helen, while rejecting Randy's crass advances, nught secretly want to fall into his arms is even harder to swallow.

KATE BASSETT

PREJUDICE, we are taught, is the one thing critics are not supposed to harbour. (Pride, it goes without saying, is unknown to the breed.) But it was difficult to cross the threshold of the Bavarian State Opera last week without the odd nervous twitch. David Pountney's anarchic sense of humour has been much in evidence recently, and not only in his rumbustious Fairy Queen for ENO. Travellers' tales from Bregenz last year spoke of drummajorettes in, of all operas. Fidelio. What would he do with Aida?

In the event the Pountney Aida was sober, deadly serious and very, very beautiful — surely one of the finest achievements of a director who seldom fails to surprise. It also made a useful point in the on-going argument as to whether people who stage opera should

Abstract but absorbing night by the Nile navel, a neck OPERA

Aida

Bavarian State Opera,

Munich

be called "directors" or "producers". This was definitely Pountney-as-producer. It was the overall concept that gripped the imagination rather than the actual direction of singers, which was rather conventional - the stock, but restrained operatic gestures of tradition which, you could argue, were what Verdi had in mind when he wrote the music at a time before opera production as such was invented.

But the abstract visual world in which it all happened was something quite extraordinary. Robert Israel's decor suggested a scenery store; half a dozen huge flats, a pair of trucks with faint depictions of human, detectably female anatomy (a

Pountney sees the opera as a study of two kinds of woman, the fleshly and the spiritual), all shifted slowly. continuously. noiselessly by an army of supernumeraries.

If that sounds unpromising, it is failing to take into account the work of the American lighting designer Mimi Jordan Sherin - she, really, should be designated the director. Washes of light in the most delicate colours (violet and indigo especially lovely) painted an ever-chang-

quite astounding painterly beauty. The final image of a huge rock slowly descending to crush the lovers who were descending into the bowels of the the-

atre was breathtaking.
The near-abstrata sculpture of the Nile scene was equally impressive, and if there is an episode that could be rethought and this is a staging one longs to see developed rather than just left to get on with it - it is the Triumph scene, to which just six dancers and nondescript choreog-

raphy (Nils Christe) failed to grant due weight. But this is already one of the most striking Aidas you could hope to see. But not, yet, one of the most striking you could hope to hear. Roberto Abbado's

conducting was workaday, efficient, not measuring up to one of Verdi's most subtle and elusive scores. He, and the house, favour a big fat sound that is not exactly singer-friendly, and this neo-classical opera is largely about singing, as Pountney tacitly acknowledged. Influenza. I understand, had cut a swathe through the rehearsal period, and the first night was a nervy occasion, with only Waltraud Meier (Amneris) sounding fully

at ease. She sang an absolute storm. sounding happier in Verdi than she often does in Wagner.

After a tense, edgy first two acts, Cheryl Studer sentled down into a sunnier, more relaxed account of Aida's music, but the silvery sense of musical phrase for which she is so much admired was in evidence throughout. Dennis O'Neill was the dependable Radames, and Robert Hale a fine Amonasro. He seems to sound better in this theatre than anywhere else. Only Kurt Rydl's relentlessly fortissimo, woodenly phrased Ramfis let the side down. Yet even if no one had sung a note all evening (I exaggerate, of course) this

would still have been an Aida worth

RODNEY MILNES

Brought down early by the Romantic disease



When Rosa's Scene of Witchcraft (1646) was painted in Florence, ecclesiastic attitudes there - despite the Inquisition - were more relaxed than in Rome, where it could not have been openly displayed

been the first perfor-mance artist, for his public image seemed to matter as much if not more than his paintings. A poetaster and would-be scholar, he paraded the streets of Rome in his finest clothes while a liveried servant followed carrying his sword. and his satire and comedies were noted by his contemporaries. He affected a Stoic pose, portraying himself as an austere scholar in the famous self-portrait in the National Gallery: yet Rosa always watched the art market and

pined for official recognition. Both contemporaries and posterity recognised his special gift for landscapes something born of his early training in open-air sketching - but Rosa emphasised the discordant features of nature: the jagged rocks and broken limbs of trees, filling his scenes with witches and banditi rather than nymphs and shepherds. Eventually the success of his landscapes irritated him, and when one hapless visitor asked to see them, Rosa

Bruce Boucher

SALVATOR ROSA His Life and Times By Jonathan Scott Yale University Press, £40

testily replied: "My talent is for figures, and I make sure they're seen by people of excellent taste to get rid of this absurd idea that I paint land-

Rosa's paintings were pic-turesque avant la lettre, and his fierce independence won a century. Legends grew up about his spurious activities as a cutpurse and revolutionary. and if this was not quite the fame Rosa would have wanted, at least it was consonant with the role-playing so evident in his self-portraits. Here the comparison with Rembrandt or Poussin is striking. for Rosa evinced little interest in plumbing spiritual depths so much as indulging in that quintessential Italian pastime

Jonathan Scott unapologeti-cally calls his study of Rosa an old-fashioned "life and times", but its author could hardly be called a traditional art-historian. As a merchant banker and the current chairman of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art. Scott clearly has the right background for dealing with a rum

cove like Rosa.

The book is especially interesting on Rosa's literary efforts and friendships with scholars. Scott has even translated Rosa's poetry into colloquial blank verse - no mean achievement. His work is sound and crammed with factual information. The book comes to life in the later chapters, surveying the re-markable late paintings such as the Dream of Aeneas and Saul and the Witch of Endor, or the etchings which crowned the artist's last years. Although Rosa saw etchings as a means of advertising his pic-tures, they suited his wispy-figural style, and with them he created a graphic equivalent to Titian's late poesie.

THE alentine's (

aramis

This year, experience the sweet smell of romance...

Once again, The Times offers the most romantic environment for your Valentine's Day messages. Through our exclusive arrangement with Aramis, we can send on your behalf a 30ml bottle of Tuscany per Donna Eau de Toilette for the ladies, or Tuscany per Uomo Eau de Toilette for the gentlemen. Also, your Valentine will receive a card which reads: "Look for your message

I enclose a cheque/PO for £

CREDIT CARD EXPIRY DATE:

my credit card by C



made payable to Times Newspapers Ltd, or debit

Picace and this coupon with remutator at Valentine Measurer The Times, PO Box 494. I Varginia Street London El 4BL. FAX: 0171 782 7827

CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS TEL 0171 491 4009.
Us mercage with rift and the received to their from the chancely the lecturary files.
We manned the chain to deliver at advantage of the chancel state of the chain to deliver at the contract of the chain to advantage of the chain to deliver at the contract of the chain to advantage of the chain to deliver at the contract of the chain to deliver at the chain to the c

CARD NO:

in The Times on Valentine's Day." Furthermore, the most original Valentine message published will win a weekend break at Riber Hall, Derbyshire (above), voted one of Britain's most nomantic hotels. There will also be a runner-up prize of a case of champagne.*

Write your message below (One word per box - minimum 3 lines).

	E19 E29			
	E24 E34			
	£30 £40			
Initial Surname	Name			
Address	Name Address			
Post Code	Post Code			

He imbibed life as he did opium

Charles Lamb wrote of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, "nor probably the world can see again."They had met at Christ's Hospital. No doubt Coleridge wore the blue coat with a difference, since his ebullient and elusive character had been largely formed. He was already a great talker and a voracious reader, with the gift of enthralling all those whom he encountered. It is not necessary to expatiate on the delights and difficulties of his childhood, therefore, since they remain present throughout the rest of his life. It is best to encounter him in full flood.

His career at Cambridge, and his brief role as an enlisted soldier under the name of Silas Tomkyn Comberbache, are well enough known. He was discharged as 'insane", and in that sense he was already the perfect young man. He was so in love with his feelings that he was able effortlessly to parody them, perpetually tumbling between laughter and despair as if he were not at all sure of his own

Much more than Byron or Shelley, in fact, he is the poet of adolescence: despite what might be called his pantheistic Unitarianism, he saw nothing in the wide universe except the trembling of his own sensitivity. Only Wordsworth was more self-obsessed. And then, at 22, as Rosemary Ashton writes in this detailed biography, "Coleridge comes of age as a

He came of age as a talker, too, and it is not surprising that some of his best poetry takes the form of heightened conversation. But talk can also be a kind of oral fixation - what Coleridge himself once described as the "sucking child" - and the bibulousness of infantilism is present in his achievements as well as in his addictions. On one side are the Conversation Pieces, and on the other the intense and insistent verse of Kubla Khan or The Ancient Mariner, It is also the difference between the drink and the opium which he imbibed constantly.

He was so busy becoming addicted to literature and life, in fact, that he could never settle to anything. He veered between Jacobinism and Unitarianism. Pantisocratic enterprises and provincial lecturing. He took up poetry, criticism. philosophy and journalism only to abandon them. It is very surprising that he actually managed to marry, but the omens were not good when he named his first child Hartley, after the philosopher of sensationalism. His poor family were forced to follow the curavan of his own divagatory and desultory nature - until. that is, he decided that he ought to travel alone. He was in Germany, and then in Malta: he was always the searcher. although it is never clear what precisely he was searchine for.

political landscape of All

Souls' Rising by Madison

Smartt Bell (Picador, £15.99),

think first of the French Revo-

lution: the confusion of inter-

ests, the ebb and flow of public

fortunes, the uncertainty, from

one day to the next, of who was

France. Haiti in this case,

which is at six weeks' remove

from the mainland so that

Royalist, Jacobin and Thermi-

dorean jostle at the harbour

for news of which faction has

the ascendancy in Paris - ur

at least had it a few weeks

Now populate it not with

two interest groups, but four:

white royalist landowners

igrands blanes); poor republi-

can Creoies (petits blancs);

Then imagine a little bit of

in control of whom.

pelore.

Peter Ackroyd on the restless genius of Kubla Khan

He was not meant to be a husband or a father. He was too vague and too undependable for anything but brief and ecstatic friendships. The fervid cycle of rapture and eventual disenchantment is seen to its strongest effect, of course, in his relationship with Wordsworth. Wordsworth was for a while infatuated by Coleridge's loquacity and knowledge.



Coleridge: the poet of adolescence

THE LIFE OF SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE By Rosemary Ashton

while Coleridge was mightily impressed by the other poet's understanding. It could have been a fine match if Coleridge had remained in London, where the rapid beat of the city matched his own tumultuous sensitivity, but to be alone with Words-

worth in the country was a mistake. He was so oppressed by the other poet's genius that he quite forgot about his own. He came to think of himself as a "metaphysician" rather than as a poet. He never possessed that solid, self-sustaining vision upon which Wordsworth could draw. Coleridge was 100 quick, and he knew too much. He was too clever to be a poet and too imaginative to be a metaphysician. So, like Muhammad's tomb. he was suspended between two

wealthy but disenfranchised

mulattoes: and a black slave

majority so horrifically treated

that 20,000 Africans had to be

imported every year just to

keep the population constant.

left in historical accounts of

the slave rebellion which

brought Toussaint L'Ouver-

ture - the "Black Napoleon"

celebrated in one of Words-

worth's sonnets - to power. In

the novel, the rebellion is

instigated by the grands

blanes to unify the Jacobin

creoles against the mulattoes.

whom the Revolution has

sought to enfranchise, thus

forcing them into an anti-

Jacobin position and loyalty to

ities with confidence, operat-

ing manifold narrative voices

Bell handles these complex-

the ancien regime.

The novel fills in the gaps

worlds. And what, then, was the result? Thirty years of apprenticeship, as Rose-mary Ashton sees it, with the next 30 as "his years of wandering".
This is in many respects a detached and

restrained biography; it does not have the imaginative fervour, for example, of Richard Holmes's wonderful Coleridge: Early Visions. But it is described as a critical biography and, since Rosemary Ashton has written previously on Lewes and on Eliot, she is thoroughly conversant with those pulses of German idealism which animated Coleridge and which briefly stirred the English critical spirit. But she is a very astute observer of Coleridge's life. She is also, on occasions, objective to the point of being censorious.
Of course it is not hard to be unsympathetic about various aspects of his behaviour, not least in his treatment of those closest to him, and yet perhaps it is necessary to be half in love with him in

order properly to understand him.

Certain people seem born to be the object of other people's gossip and pity. and it could be said that Coleridge was created by the needs of others as well as by his own. He was always there, for contemporaries of lesser genius, to criticise, to direct and attempt to control. With his inordinate desire to please and to entertain, he pretended to capitulate. In the end he always managed to escape, while making an almost pantomimic show of self-doubt and self-criticism.

et perhaps the expectations of others were quite wrong. His letters and notebooks are wonderful, and there is a sense in which his unfinished works form a greater achievement than that of any of his contemporaries. We must think of a writer who is perhaps at his best when he remains incomplete; his genius and imagination are so restless that they can only be brought into play momentarily. Richard Holmes put it well when he described one of Coleridge's most haunting images as "a protean form or a forcefield, lacking fixed structure or outline".

This is also the shape of Coleridge's genius. He had too fine and sensitive an imagination to dwell in any perception for too long. He adapted brilliantly to whomever he accompanied. He spoke without limits or distinctions. He followed the glow-worm of an idea until it burst into flames above his head. Just as his coems thwart any real attempt at narrative, so his life and career seem plangent, incantatory, insistent but without any formal resolution. Yet it is the mark of his greatness that the reader does not want Rosemary Ashton's book to end. He was a Socrates in the wrong civilisation, a Hamlet in the right one. a man whose universal genius made him prodigal of

zone of zealous, quality hearts

n intellectual and psy-chological romp. Deb-ra Daley's first novel follows the lives of Nerida and Alexis. It begins with their separate sunny New Zealand childhoods, though the glamorous pair are destined to meet and fall in love. Daley creates an acidic sense of doom which constantly erodes the more saccharine flavours of the plot. Following the paradigm "families — they screw you up", Nerida is numbed by guilt about her mother's death and her father's subsequent disso-lution. Alexis, meanwhile, intellectually hot-housed by his adoring parents, grows up to be the perfect narcissist. Such are the obvious legacies of their different upbringings, but the detail of cause and effect, of event and reaction are now to be played out,

As young adults, they land in London, where Nerida drifts into a successful model-ting career. Drifting is her chief characteristic. As a result, her character teeters at the edge of tedium, but is saved by the suggestion that she is heading towards a more interesting existence. Alexis's life is altogether more turbu-lent. While a student, his childhood epilepsy returns to plague and bless him, bring-ing the gift of automatic writ-ing. The brilliant papers on ing. The brilliant papers on linguistics that result launch his academic career, the letter Z having an "intermittent influence" and triggering at-tacks. A quote from Balzac's Z. Marcas resonates: "Do you not discern in that letter Z an adverse influence? Does it not prefigure the wayward and iantastic progress of a storm-

References to "the strange letter Z" pile up like red

Tania Rice

THE STRANGE LETTER Z By Debra Daley Bloomsbury, E14.99

herrings in a thriller. At Cafe-Zar in Paris, Alexis tells Nerida of his obsession with Zeugen's work NarZiss, which inspires her to seduce him in the back of a cab. Playful though the use of the last chunk of the dictionary is, it smacks of over-indulgence.

erotically detailed. though proof, perhaps, of Kundera's theory that sex without its humorous side is banal. Meringue, however, may loose its appeal after Nerida suggests an alternative use for egg whites. She glides coolly along towards self-fulfilment, taking everything in her elegant stride. Alexis, faced with academic rivalry and Faustian temptation, is gripped by a sense of fraudulence: the grit in the narcissist's oyster. Hoping to alleviate his deteriorating condition, he proposes a sojourn in Mexico where the novel reaches its exotic climax.

When Alexis exhorts a colleague to "make something ordinary strange" he might be describing Daley's forte. But sometimes the narrative, otherwise lively with its sliding changes of perspective, is cum-bersome with ideas. Slough off this excess and there is, in the close observation, the manipulation of plot and character, a talented new writer at work. Typical is Daley's delightfully ironic description of buying provisions from a young woman exercising gloom behind the counter of a delicatessen in Hampstead". On a larger scale, she shows great skill in her portrayal of children as invisibly damaged: damage adulthood cannot cure, but only allow a resolution.

The bloody opening of a long war ates her pregnant maid with a razor because she has dropped

slow down and an equilibrium

is temporarily achieved. We

leave Haiti in 1793, before the

worst of the carnage, and

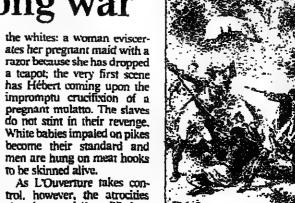
there are suggestions that Bell

intends a trilogy. It is to be hoped that this is true, for

while some in America have

questioned the propriety of a

white American appropriat-



The Haitian uprising, 1791

sell novels, this is a fascinating aspect of the French Revolution that is all too frequently ignored in the romantic excitement generated by far far better" things.

GILES COREN

صكرامن الأصل

sides. But his concentration on

the effect of class and race

struggles on the individual

makes this novel more a

human than a political drama.

OUR TWO principal conduc-

tors through the burning cane

fields are Antoine Hebert, an

enlightened French doctor

search of his sister, and a freed slave called Riau caught up in

the revolution.

who has come to the island in

The doctor is the more

successful construction. Perso-

na grata on all sides, and

anachronistically liberal, he

operates like an everyman,

responding on our behalf to

For this is a graphically

the iniquities carried out by ing the voice of a black slave to

gruesome novel. First we have

the atrocities of war.

Roger Scruton on a writer's key to the 20th century

The novelist with quality to spare

The collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire plunged its literature into a state of mourning Josef Roth, Stefan Zweig and Hugo von Hof-mannsthal have left unfor-gettable elegies to the culture which produced them; but even their great achievements pale beside the novel which Robert Musil began in 1918 and left unfinished at his death in 1942. The Man without Qualities is one of the longest novels in existence, and this new translation, including much of the material unpublished at Musil's death and many of the passages from his note-books, shows not that Musil

died too young to finish it (he was at work on it for more than 20 years), but that it has no conceivable ending. Or rather, there is only one event that could bring this aimless commotion, set in the Vienna of 1913, to an end - and that event is unthinkable. All the characters sense that it is there, but none of them can conceive it, and only the reader knows that it is destined to shatter their world so completely that their actions, in retrospect, will

make no proper sense. Ostensibly the plot concerns a crazy scheme the Parallel or Collateral Campaign, conceived by high society patriots in order to revitalise the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. In fact, however, there is no plot. Nothing happens besides meetings - some devoted to the patriotic cause, some to the reckless human relations which grow around it. In a notebook Musil wrote: "The story that makes up this novel amounts to this: that the story that was supposed to be told in it is not told". In other words, the book. like the characters described

Europe — the soul which achieved its highest and most despairing self-consciousness in this very novel. Ulrich, the "man without qualities", in fact has many qualities - but only fleetingly, and observed with such

in it, avoids the unthinkable

event which is soon to de-

stroy "Kakania", and to

threaten the soul of central

THE MAN WITHOUT QUALITIES By Robert Musil Picador, £40

adhere to him. He is a philosopher, an observer of human weakness, and an unscrupulous seducer. His dramatic point lies not in his character but in his thoughts, expressed with a wonderful gift for metaphor by a writer who rises to the height of poetic evocation just when he is being most scientifically exact.
Ulrich's life is shaped by



Musil: hinting at the unthinkable

his admiration for his cousin "Diotima", instigator-inchief of the patriotic campaign, by his lust for the nymphomaniae "Bonadea", and by his analytical obsession with Clarisse, the brilliantly portrayed schizoid wife of his best friend.

n Part III of the novel. however, all this reality is set aside, and Ulrich embarks on a "mystical union" with his sister Agathe, in which love, of a kind, hovers on the verge of carnal embodiment, and the tragicomedy of Kakania sinks into the background.

Parallel to the story of Ulrich is that of the sexmurderer Moosbrugger. Moosbrugger is one of the great creations of modern literature, whose mad thoughts are conveyed with an imagination and finesse worthy of Dostoyevsky. He hears a girl laughing and "turns around quickly, only to look into a face as

ground into which a mouse has just slipped". His is the only glimpse we are offered of the world outside the salon and the study; it is a disor-dered world, in which Musil is clearly not at home, yet in which for that very reason he

takes a penetrating interest. The Man without Qualities is a vehicle for its author's philosophy, for his poetic gift and for his powers of observation. It is a book into which every human feeling is invited, only to be at once pinned to the wall. A coldness wafts terrible around even its warmest evocations, and the obses-

sion with women and their

sexuality is at times unbearable in its loveless objectivity. Nevertheless, wishes to understand our century should read this novel, which so clearly shows the damage done to human relations by the habit of seeing them, in Musil's words, "not in a godless but in a god-free way". Such was Musil's way of seeing them: and it explains the otherwise inexcusable nonsense of a mystical union with the sister, by which he sought to escape from the emo-

tional void created on

every side by his searing

powers of analysis. The Man without Qualities was first translated by Eithne Wilkins and Ernst Kaiser, and published in 1954, in an edition which leaves out the entire Nachlass. Sophie Wilkins's version is equally lively, and on the whole more accurate. Both versions will offend the philosophical reader, by translating "das Prinzip des

unzureichenden Grundes". which refers to Leibniz's Principle of Sufficient Reason, as "the Principle of Insufficient Cause". This shows ignorance: it also ruins one of Musil's most sustained and delightful ironies. Such pedantries apart, I would recommend Sophie Wilkins's translation as a conscientious attempt to give to the English reader a novel which is compared by the publisher, with only slight exaggeration, to The Remembrance of Things Past

Daylight and magic









Elizabeth II as both a very human Queen and an icon of Monarch a set of commemorative Coronation stamps, issued on June 3, 1953

Andrew Roberts examines a well-balanced biography of the Queen and finds its author as judicious as she is honest and unflinching

ELIZABETH

Heinemann, CM

ednesday September 9, 2015 will be an important day in the life of Queen Elizabeth II. for she will then have reigned longer than any other British monarch. If she inherits her mother's family's longevity, it is not mpossible for a nonagenarian Elizabeth to beat Oueen Victoria's 63 years, seven months and two days record. We must hope that she does, and Sarah Bradford's book goes a long way

towards explaining why.
In all the media hysteria which has greeted Elizabeth - or at least this newspaper's serialisation of it, as most of its critics cannot have read the book itself — no one has asked about its central message. It is simply that our present Queen is the most honest, dutiful, decent, professional and genu-inely Christian monarch ever to sit on the British Throne.

The failings of some of Elizabeth II's family are all the starker in contrast with the near-perfection she has brought to the job. Just as the best human brains beat

the best computers at chess, we have a very human Queen who does the job better than could any fullyprogrammed robot.

The result is that throughout all the

strains of post-1952 Britain, there has been a national focus for our loyalty and civic unity, a powerful psychological force against social and political fissure which is denied to republican countries.

Sarah Bradford, the respected biographer of Disraeli, George VI and Sacheverell Sitwell, writes elegantly and well. The sniffy description of her by the enthusiastically non-academic Editor of The Spectator as "nonacademic" would presumably also exclude his favourite historians Gibbon, George Buckle and Paul Johnson. Witty and generous, the author has nevertheless been deluged with conrumely for this honest and restrained book, and all because of two pages. Sir Robert Rhodes James even denounced it on the basis of precisely two paragraphs, and under a headline "The Mid-life Crisis of a Writer") so personally insulting and unfair I am sure he would not condone it.

The reason is not Bradford's research; she has covered all the sources open to her and interviewed among others the Earls of Carnavon and Harewood. Lords Jenkins and Charteris. Ladies Longford and Mountbatten and the late Group Captain Peter Townsend. It is rather because she has applied to her biography of the head of state the same criteria that all serious modern biographers have for decades now applied to lives do matter and that if the subject should be "long to reign over us."

knows her husband may have been unfaithful it should be included, however tangentially. Any life of the Queen which ignored it entirely would have been rightly excoriated by the review-ers, and Bradford is nothing if not

If anything, the author perhaps errs too much on the side of discretion. She does not mention by name the women with whom Prince Philip has conducted "flirtations and relationships" over the last half century. Compared to what she must have heard while writing this book, Sarah Bradford must have exercised enormous selfcensorship, and has brilliantly drawn the teeth of the far more dangerous chequebook journalist extravaganza promised by Kitty Kelley.

The Queen's more tolerant and wholly upper-class marital mores have allowed her to rise above her husband's wanderings and, as Bradford is at enormous pains to point out, a blissfully successful marriage has resulted. The fact that every so often his

testosterone may get the better of him is not something Bradford A Biography of Her Majesty the Queen **By Sarah Bradford** conscientiously

particularly dwells on but neither is it something that she could ignore. Far from emerging with cuckold's horns,

the Queen portrayed in this book is victorious, happy and glorious. Sarah Bradford's brave and honest decision not to keep her readers ignorant about something that has been common London society gossip for half a century must be applauded.

The abuse she has received for making money out of the book's serialisation says more about the culture of envy in the British tabloid press than it does about her. Stockbrokers, businessmen and even tabloid editors are not criticised for wishing to maximise profit on their products, yet the moment an author looks to gain from a book which might have taken, as in this case, four years to research and write, they are treated with disdain.

Elizabeth is a fine biography, but anyone reading it for sleaze will be hugely disappointed. The author is clearly a fervent monarchist, who along with John Osborne, Maicolm Muggeridge, John Grigg and others. has correctly perceived that the true threat to the monarchy comes not from open republicanism but from post-Victorian, inhumanly high expectations, fuelled by moronic elements in the media.

The best that can be hoped for, apart from a quick divorce and the efficient sidelining of Princess Diana, is that the heroine of this excellent biography

READING anthologies is a bit like getting drunk on a series of miniatures. Still, here are some strong ones.

Women's Poetry of the 1930s (Routledge, £35 or £8.99 paperback) aims to destroy the myth that all the poets of the "Auden Generation" were men. Twenty women poets of the inter-war years are represenied separately, though two of the most interesting (Laura Riding and Kathleen Raine) refused to allow their work to be included in a gender-based compilation. Stevie Smith. Anne Ridler and Ruth Pitter seem the most distinctive voices here - but then each of these writers was primarily a poet, where some of the rest wrote verse only as a side-line. sound critical case that none of

Happily ransacking the poetic mini-bar

POEIRY

her inclusions deserves to be ignored, and her notes of introduction are exemplary. I doubt if this volume by itself will cause a re-drawing of the map of fame, but students and scholars alike should find it a

useful resource. Poems on the Underground (Cassell, £6.95 paperback) collects lo2 poems that have been soothing or annoying commuters for the past ten years. A wide range of writers is represented - from Shakespeare to Dorothy Parker, the laner by her quatrain The Flaw in Paganism: "Drink

and dance and laugh and lie,/ Love, the reeling midnight through./ For tomorrow we shall die!/ (But, alas, we never

The editors report that when this poem first appeared on the Tube, they received a phone call from a vicar asking permission to reprint it in the hurch Times, which would doubtless have amused the author. These editors (Gerard Benson, Judith Chernaik. Cicely Herbert) merit praise in that high and low nearly all their choices are inspired. Compulsive readers with an aversion to adverts for temps are forever in their debt. I think it was Camille Paglia who said that poetry is the connecting link between body and mind: in which case she might enjoy Christopher Hurford's anthology, Erotic Verse (Robinson, £5.99 paperback). Splendidly rude, this runs from Chaucer to Thom Gunn, and finds room for Eskimo Nell as well as Christina Rossetti. Nice to see a slice of the pseudo-Byronic Don Leon included, even if the editor ascribes it to Anon when G. Wilson Knight proved 40 years ago that it is by George Colman the Younger. An unusual item is W. H. Auden's uncollected . An unusual item is The Platonic Blow, which he seems to have written as a

William Burroughs's The

At least his repetitions

have a mighty breadth. If

any modern thinker can

claim to have a foot in

both of Cyril Connolly's

Ballard. You sense that he

proudly, even ruthlessly

patrols the patch. There's a

cruel swipe at Jonathan

Miller, one of his fellow two-

culture-vultures who, he says,

brilliantly mimics originali-

ry". Ballard's own originality

then it

Naked Lunch.

cultures.

porno exercise parodying the clotted metres employed in the Arthurian poems of his "saintly" friend Charles Williams (curious how these metres suit carnal matters better than they match their original transcendental purpose).

My one criticism would be that there are more vigorously colloquial versions of Catulius by C. H. Sisson than the ones favoured here. The real test of a book like this, though, is the strength of its obscenities by Anon - and here Hurford comes up trumps, with all the stuff you would expect (such as a complete text of The Good Ship Venus) as well as a few limericks new at least to me:

is partly a case of going to odd

sources for inspiration. The ten favourite books he lists in 1992 include the LA Yellow

Pages and also The Black Box.

a collection of cockpit voicerecorder transcripts.

These are examples of what

"A remarkable tribe are the Sweenies./ Renowned for the length of their penes./ The hair on their balls/ Sweeps the floors of their halls,/ But they don't care for women, the meanies."

No Sweenies or meanies but lots of Searmus Heaney in Patrick Crotty's Modern I rish Poetry (Blackstaff Press,

the results are too rich even for putting on the roses, but of the variety and abundance of contemporary Irish verse this excellent anthology leaves no doubt. Women's poetry is strongly represented by. among others. Eavan Boland and Medbh McGuckian, as well as by the liveliest of the Irish-language poets. Nuala

Ni Dhomhnaill.

£14.99 paperback). Some of

ROBERT NYE

SATURDAY BOOKS

Edwina Currie's latest political blockbuster; Joanna Trollope salutes her publisher and Andrew Knight on the rise and rise of Conrad Black

WHITBREAD

BOOK OF THE YEAR

A black box of dystopic trifles

ournalism has a nasty habit of disappearing into the ether or, slightly better, to the bottom of the guinea pig cage. Only a minuscule percentage finds a good enough excuse to be recycled in anthological form. This collection's is that it is by J. G. Ballard, who has roped in a lot of old pieces under a banner title that works overtime to justify their resuscita-

A User's Guide to the Millennium includes Ballard's pensées on Mae West, Winnie the Pooh and Coca-Cola which, far from getting you through to the next millennium, do no more than fill an idle minute the way ordinary journalism does. But the bulk of the stuff, much of it book reviews, is on Ballard's more familiar territory, covering subjects on which he will have held firm opinions long before the literary editor set him his task: pieces about the funire (its past, present and future), space (outer and inner), sci-



Seminal realism in science fiction cinema: Destination Moon (1950) from Science Fiction: The Aurum Film Encyclopedia, edited by Phil Hardy (Aurum Press, £25)

ence, fiction, science fiction, Shanghai, Shepper-ton. And so on into an infinite variety of loosely

linked obsessions. In 30 years of being invited to write about the moon landings and whither-the-sci-fi novel?" (about which, surely, fewer people care than he imagi-nes) he couldn't possibly get away with not repeating ideas

and phrases. The infamous photo of the napalmed Vietnamese girl Jasper Rees

A USER'S GUIDE TO THE MILLENNIUM **Essays and Reviews** By J. G. Ballard HarperCollins, £18

obsesses him. He is fond of suggesting that Neil Armstrong is the century's most significant, and yet most forgotten icon. And does he ever go on about the supremacy of he calls invisible literatures:

faxes. e-mail. press releases. "obscure genre fictions wrapped in metallised jackets that we scarcely notice on our way to the duty-free shop". He even reviews a piece of invisible literature: How To Achieve Sexual Ecstasy, in which. making one of his trademark predictions about the dystopia in which our descendants will live, he imagines a near future in which "sex does not exist. only eroticism". ometimes his apercus-

for-hire are provoking solely for their wrong headedness. "London needs to become as decadent as Weimar Berlin", he tells the readers of Time Out. Apparently it would improve with more brothels and porn parlours. How about its own local government? These reviews and essays are themselves a form of invisible literature. and despite repetitions, well worth hoiking into our sight-line. Ballard envisages a future in which "anthologies of 20th-century inter-office memos may be as treasured as the correspondence of Virginia Woolf and T. S. Eliot". Anthologies ain't going to be what

George stubs out his cigarette and makes a

kind of snorting noise in his throat and settles back into his chair to watch Bunty making his cup of tea (well, this is 1959). He clears his throat and spits into his handkerchief just as Bunty puts the cup and saucer in front of him with a glazed expression on her face. This is the expression she wears when she picks up George's socks, handkerchiefs and underpants (wearing rubber gloves) and drops them into a bucket of Dettol to soak before they are allowed to join the rest of our barely-sullied washing in the English Electric.

from Behind the Scenes at the Museum by Kate Atkinson Published by Black Swan @ £6.99

Congratulations to Kate Atkinson, winner of the 1995 Whitbread Book of the Year

Celebrating the best contemporary **English literature**

Granada to raise **Forte** prices

By David Churchill

THE Granada Group is ex- rates this year, probably by pected to lead a rush by British hoteliers to raise hotel prices after its successful £3.8 billion takeover of Forte on Tuesday. Granada is understood to be planning to push up rates by up to 10 per cent at the Forte hotels it acquired, including the Travelodge and Posthouse chains, to take ad-

industry sources suggest that Granada may increase the standard rate of £34.50 at the 120 Travelodges it has acquired by between £3 and £4 a night, leapfrogging the £35.50 a night that Whitbread charges in its Travel Inn chain

vantage of a strong demand

Whitbread had hoped to buy Forte's Travelodges for £1 billion if the Forte family had been able to successfully defend against the bid for their group. Whitbread may now take the opportunity to bolster its profit margins by matching any new Travelodge price

Granada's plans to raise prices are being followed by other hotel chains around Britain, according to Borge Eligaard, American Express vice-president for its hotel relations group. He said: The top hotels in London have already made it clear that rates will go up by between 5 and 10 per cent this year, and In some cases a little more, as a result of the very high demand."

Mark Phillips, a senior con-sultant for Horwath, a hotel consultancy, described Lon-don hotel prices as "racing ahead" this year. But he said that the picture was not as strong in the regions.

"We expect hotels in the major regional cities to try to follow London and put up

Cliveden

wins world

rating

BY TONY DAWE

CLIVEDEN, the historic

house on the banks of the

Thames in Berkshire, has

been rated the third best hotel

in the world by readers of the

American travel magazine,

Conde Nast Traveler.
It is one of 24 British

properties - more than any

other European country — that made the "gold list" of the

world's 500 best hotels and

Readers praised Cliveden's

"fine panelling that goes on

forever", the "excellent French food", the "splendid period pieces" in the rooms. They

described the grounds and

The hotel scored 96.4 per

cent in the survey of 33,000 readers and finished behind

the Four Seasons Resort, Bali. and the Four Seasons Hotel. Milan. London's Four Sea-

sons Hotel achieved the sec-

ond-best rating in Britain and

was praised for its luxurious

Ritz hotels in London, and the Royal Crescent in Bath and

Chewton Glen, Hampshire,

scored well, as did Llangoed

Hall in Wales, described as "a

lovely country house in the spectacular Wye Valley".

decor and excellent cuisine. Claridge's, the Savoy and

about 5 per cent or so," he said. "But outside the urban areas it is still pretty tough for hote-liers. About three-quarters of the UK hotel stock is in regional towns or on the edge of big cities and they will have little scope to push up prices this year." Stakis, the Scottish-based

hotel group, has said it is likely to seek increases of up to 5 per cent this year as a result of higher demand for its regional city hotels.

But Amex's Mr Ellgaard says he has already detected signs this month that some companies are resisting pay-ing the higher prices being charged by London hotels. There is a little price resistance clearly being detected by our staff." he reported.

Amex has a special hotelbooking centre for its corporate clients which is aimed at securing lowest prices. Next month it plans to publish a UK guide to more than 600 business hotels at which. Mr Ellgaard claims, Amex can negotiate rates some 40 per cent below published prices.

Hotel industry experts. however, believe that Granada's plans to sell Forte's Meridien business hotels and luxury Exclusive hotels, such as the Hyde Park Hotel in London and George V in Paris, may distort the market. New owners of these hotels are likely to want to raise prices even further to recover their costs of acquisition. But Horwath's Mr Phillips

said: "We could be at the top of the business cycle for hotel demand this year." This could make it more difficult for Granada to secure the best prices for the Forte Luxury hotels and its stake in the

TWO NEW opportunities

have arisen for intrepid travel-

lers this summer, both spon-

sored for the benefit of

The Friends of Russian

Children (FORC) is orga-

nising a 450-mile cycle ride

from Nogorod, near St Peters-

burg, to Moscow. It is appeal-

ing for 100 volunteers for the

ten-day ride between June 20

and 30. Accommodation is a

mixture of camping and bud-

Each participant will be

required to raise a minimum

of £1,000 for a project to

improve conditions at a Mos-

children's charities.

get hotels.



The Israel-Jordan accord will allow Eilat to expand along the coast towards the border

Eilat-Aqaba resort agreed

FROM RACHAEL JOLLEY IN ISRAEL

The trip, from July 29 to August 11, is completed with a

safari drive through the re-gion's national parks, staying

in lodges. It takes in the Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater and the bird-watchers' Eden,

The cost per person is £1.995, of which £500 will go

further 550 for each walker

will be donated to a Tanzanian

children's charity. Each par-ticipant is also asked to raise

an additional minimum of £250 through sponsorship.

Contact Gane and Marshall

directly to the NSPCC.

Lake Manyara.

on 0181-441 9592.

THE leaders of Israel and Jordan have signed an historic treaty to create a holiday resort on the Gulf of Aqaba which would link the Israeli town of Eilat with the Jordanian town of Aqaba.

Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan last week agreed a blueprint for the region's tourism, and signed the Eilat-Aqaba accord in Aqaba before sailing to Eilat, five kilometres away, to celebrate their plans. The agreement comes after the peace treaty signed between the two countries more than a

Within a few weeks, it is hoped, the two cities will be linked by regular bus and

Take a trek for children

By MARTIN SYMINGTON

cow children's hospital burns

unit. A further £1,000 may

also be raised by sponsorship to cover the full cost of the

journey. One of the first to sign

up has been Carol Thatcher.

Phone 0171-720 9219 for

Another 100 are being

sought by the National Society

for the Prevention of Crueity to

Children (NSPCC). It has

linked up with the Africa

specialist tour operator Gane

and Marshall to organise a

six-day hike across the Great

Rift Valley in Tanzania, led by

nomadic Masai tribesmen

with camping en route.

details

boat services and an airport serving both cities is to be

built within five years. Up to now the expansion of the Israeli resort has not been possible because of the tenion between the two countries, which has prevented hotels being built close to the border. Now, hotels, restaurants and tourist facilities are to be built along the Ellat coastline and a similar growth is expected in Aqaba.

Dov Sharf, the newly appointed director of regional co-operation and a member of the Eilat-Aqaba development committee, says the agreement will make it much easier for tourists to book holidays to both Jordan and Israel. Visa restrictions are to be

eased, so speeding up the

border crossing. He says: "We are now entering a new era. We are going to co-operate and it will be of benefit to all." The new airport will be about 12 kilometres from Eilat, probably on Jordanian territory. At the moment, all flights from the UK arrive at Ovda, a former military airbase, and the new location will be 30 minutes nearer the resorts.

Mr Sharf predicted that Egypt would also sign a similar agreement, so joining in with Israel and Jordan's tourism venture, and allowing visitors easy access between the three countries, all within a 30-minute drive of each other along the coast.

Thomson turns to Ireland

THOMSON is to sell package holidays in Ireland — its first foray into the potentially lu-crative market, Harvey Elliott writes. The company hopes to persuade the Irish to buy at least 40,000 packages to the traditional resorts of the Mediterranean, the Canary Islands

Steve Allen, commercial director, says at least 350,000 summer packages are now sold in Ireland and that this is likely to increase to 400,000. Budget and Falcon account for 80 per cent of sales, and Thomson believes it can compete on price and quality.

Thomson will watch the

development of the new operation carefully: if successful, it could eventually expand to other European countries, "The Ireland operation has the distinct advantage that every-one speaks English," Mr Allen says. "Although the Irish do have certain preferences and do some things differently to our British customers, basically they are looking for the same sort of holiday.

Striking gold

Forte Hotels scored an ironic victory when it was named as Awards on Tuesday. The presentation at the Grosvenor House Hotel, in London, came only hours after Forte lost its takeover battle with Granada. Jackie Kernaghan, Forte sales and marketing director, described the award as the "end of an era." Thomson Holidays scooped the awards, winning five Golden Globes including the premier award for the Best Travel Company of the Year.

WEEKEND

Travel the world again in Weekend on Saturday See the face of Queen Nefertari Swap homes and see the world Shakespeare in Barbados

and Florida for this summer.

both the UK and Europe's leading hotel group in the Travel Weekly Golden Globes

TRAVEL

THE WAS ENTENDED AND OF THE WEST

including return scheduled flights, breakfast, flowers and fruit in your room, start at £538 per person. Details: 0181-686 5533.

☐ A DAY trip to Venice on February 14, including a guided tour of the city by water taxi, is available from Lunn Poly for £238 per couple. The company is also offering a two-night break in York on February 14 and 15 for £114 per couple and has weekend breaks available from February 16 in Amster-

☐ FOUR nights, including February 14, for the price of three at the seductive 5-star Hotel Eden in Rome is being offered by Citalia. Prices,

CREATE a new man is the theme of Inter-Continental

Hotels' programme being

launched on St Valentine's

Day and lasting throughout

1996. The programme, for men only, includes a Rolls-

Royce transfer to Harvey

Nichols store in Knights-

bridge for a facial, manicure

and haircut before having a

meeting with a personal im-

age and presentation consul-

its four hotels in London,

along with dinner for two

and a bouquet of red roses for

the man. Prices start at £810

per couple at the Forum

Hotel and go up to £2,500 at

the Inter-Continental on

Hyde Park Corner. Details:

☐ THE Stoke-on-Trent Moat

House is celebrating St Val-entine's on Friday, February

16 with a two-night package,

dinner-dance, red roses and

full English breakfast for

£92.95 per person. Details: 01782 609988.

☐ THE Hotel de Crillon in

0181-847 2277.

dam. Paris and New York for

those who cannot get away on the day itself. Details:

FOR those who would like to plan something a little more original than a rose and a

card for their loved ones on

Valentine's Day, The Times

offers a selection of holidays

and hotel stays specially de-

signed for romantics:

☐ VALENTINE'S Day at the Venice Carnival forms part of a three-night break offered by Crystal Italy in the cen-trally located 3-star Hotel Bonvecchiati. Price: £331 per person. Details: 0181-390

☐ THE chance to cuddle up to your partner for the night of February 14 in a twoperson tent against a background of Everest is offered as part of a 17-day adventure holiday from Explore Worldwide. Departing from London on February 9, the holiday includes sightseeing, trekking and some hotel ac-commodation. Price: £1,315

tel costs £390. Details: 0181-340 7612.

per person. Details: 01252 319448.

SKIING through the gen-

tle wooded hills of central France on Valentine's Day

with a candlelit gastronomic

dinner to follow is the sugges-

tion of Headwater Holidays.

Departing on February 10. the week's holiday in Pailherols, costs £492 per person including full board and Nordic ski pack. Details:

BARGAIN holidays to in-

clude Valentine's Day on the island of Cyprus, birthplace

of Aphrodite, the "goddess of love", are available from Cyplon Holidays, Prices for a

week, including flights, at the 5-star Coral Beach Hotel start at £290 per person, less

than half the peak season price. A week at the 5-star Paphos Amathus Beach Ho-

01606 48699.

ing the Crillon" package priced at Fr3.900 (£513) per couple per night which in-cludes a champagne break-fast, flowers in a de luxe room and a gift of a Baccarat crystal heart. Details: 00 33 144711501. □ CHAMPAGNE and a doz-

tant. Accommodation is in one of the chain's top suites at en red roses are on offer from the Ritz Hotel, London, on Valentine's night, along with a continental breakfast the next morning. One night's accommodation is £225 plus VAT for two while a champagne dinner dance in the hotel's Louis XVI restaurant costs another £125 per per-son. Details: 0171-493 8181.

☐ STAY at the Runnymede Hotel on the banks of the River Thames close to Windsor and enjoy not only a special dinner at £22.50 per person but also an extensive range of health and beauty treatments at the hotel's spa, including a back, neck and

facial for £36. Details: 01784

PROPOSE to your loved one on February 14 at Bullochs restaurant at the Athenaeum hotel in London and, if accepted, your wedding night can be spent free in the hotel. The special dinner costs £40 per person, including a glass of pink champagne. Details: 0171-499 3464.

CANNIZARO House, a Georgian mansion set on Wimbledon Common, has a special five-course meal on Valentine's night for £39.75 with overnight accommodation at £59 per person includ-ing breakfast. Details: 0181-379 1464.

☐ A ROMANTIC dinner dance is being held at the Waldorf Hotel in London on February 14, at £65 per person along with a prize draw to win a weekend for two in Paris, travelling by Eurostar. Details: 0171-836

tween London and Kuala

Lumpur or Singapore. Both

Asian cities make ideal jump-

ing off points for other desti-

nations in that region.

C EASYJET brings its no-

frills fares to the Luton-

Aberdeen route from

tomorrow. The airline will

sell all seats at £29 one way

Details: 0171-485 5868.

BRITISH AIRWAYS latest World Offers programme is now on sale. Return fares include Cologne for £79, Frankfurt £104, Madrid £96, Paris £69 and Venice £118. Details: 0181-897 4000.

AIR UK's riposte is a new range of saver fares, including Copenhagen £149, Ham-burg £108, Milan £129, Munich £120, Nice £96, Flor-Details: 0345 666777.

☐ TWO passengers bound for South-East Asia can fly in business-class comfort for half price. Bridge The World Travel has a companion fare of £1,137 return per person for round-trip business flights with Malaysia Airlines be-

transatiantic flights. Details: 0345 567567. ☐ BUSINESS class passen-

gers flying ANA to Japan qualify for benefits worth several hundred pounds. These include a night's free five-star accommodation in Tokyo and chauffeur-driven cars to and from Heathrow. Details: 0171-355 1155.

☐ BA Executive Club members will get triple air miles when booking full-fare Deut-sche BA (the German British Gatwick and Bremen. Details: 0990 322322

during the initial one-week period. Details: 01592 445566. MERICAN AIRLINES is offering a 40,000-mile bonus for frequent-fiver members booking first or business class, round-trip

☐ MANCUNIANS can save about 30 per cent when flying business class to the Gulf The Travel Bug, a local agent, is charging £1,229 return on Emirates from



Lisbon & Porto with 2 nights free accommodation in 3 star hotel.

Portugaline 01716309223

All flights are on scheduled services. Bookings must be made by 19th February 1996, departures up to 28th March 1996 two right stay or a Saturday right.

Subject to availability Caravela Tours Ltd. ATOL, 1598. Airport Taxes are not cicluded.

and the second second second

Room service? Send up a bicycle, please

BY QUENTIN LETTS

AMERICAN hotels are offering a new room service facility alongside the customary shoeshine, laundry and midnight sandwich platters. Guests can now ring down for an exercise bicycle.
The innovation reflects not

only the keep-lit lad, but also a growing reluctance among some people to use hote gymnasiums. Women are said to fear late-night trips to the exercise suite, which may often be in the basement. For portly businessmen there is the embarrassment factor of sweatily conducting one's physical jerks in the company of a more syelte male. A number of hotels have

therefore introduced room-

service treadmills, step-up ma-

chines and exercise bikes.

They add as much as \$30 to the bill, but Elisa Ross, of the Ritz-Carlton in Aspen, Colorado, said that guests are happy to pay. The minimalis Royalton Hotel in New York, popular with rock stars, has gone further, introducing rooms which have small exercise units en suite. Celebrities welcome the chance to do their fitness routines away from prying eyes, said the hotel's manager, Keith Space.

Brian Davidson, a director at Lifecycles, which makes the fold-up exercise machines. said that demand had blossomed in the last year. The Hilton and Marriott chains are testing the devices, and they have been introduced at some lower budget chains such as Days Inn.

Inter-rail through Europe

University cities

COASTAL NEW ENGLAND VISIT BOSTON, MAINE & CAPE COD

6 NIGHTS FROM JUST £499 DEPARTURES IN APRIL & MAY 1996 Travel through a beautiful corner of Send for your brochure today by telephoning

OFF

New England where mountains and forests form a backdrop to spectacular rocky shores, uncrowded beaches and quaint harbour towns. You will spend three nights in the coastal resort of Kennebunkport, Maine. then journey into Massachusetts and spend two nights in Hyannis. Cape Cod, on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean. Also included in the itinerary is a day trip to Boston. Optional excursions include a whalewatch

cruise from Cape Cod, a visit to Plymouth where the Pilgrims first settled and the chance to sample New England's excellent seafood with a traditional lobster dinner.

THE HOLIDAY PRICE INCLUDES Scheduled flights between London Gatwick and Boston. FREE coach travel to the airport from selected

pick-up points. • Five nights hotel accommodation and one night returning on the aircraft.

 Coach travel and touring in New England. Services of a tour manager.

Festive Holidays on 0990 55 33 55

or return the coupon below to: THE TIMES COASTAL NEW ENGLAND OFFER, Festive Holidays Limited, Acorn House,

Great Oaks, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1AB This holiday is operated by Festive Holidays. a company independent of Times Newspapers Ltd.

ABTA VI06X ATOL 2172
Coastal New England Offer Please forward me an einerary and a booking form
Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)
Address:
Post Code:

by us, please tick the box

INVERTISE CALL 1481 1959 THADE 1111 : C 3 N 19 low cost flights ing Space in MANGET CO. della Air Lines

canvas

147 (147) 16

. F

Charity seeks eco-tourists Norwich tops fare league

By TONY DAWE

A CHANCE to study the snow leopard's hopes of survival in the Himalayas and to record the habits of black lemurs in the dwindling forests of Madagascar are among the new eco-tourism projects unveiled

by Earthwatch today.

The charity, which funds scientific research by inviting paying volunteers to join in, has introduced 32 new projects among the 138 included in its programme for this year, and hopes to attract thousands of helpers at prices ranging from

In addition to studying wildlife, volunteers can work with local communities in places such as Ecuador, where help is needed to conserve a 15,000acre tropical forest, and Yunnan province, China, where a team will try to capture the essence of the remote region's Buddhist ritual and music.

Earthwatch is also running cultural and heritage projects. Among those announced today is a scheme to study, draw and photograph traditional houses in Kula, Turkey, to help to ensure the designs

There is little money around for this type of project but by matching the needs of scientists with the interest of the public we have found a way of funding them," says Andrew Mitchell, Earthwatch's deputy director.

"Many people long to use their two-week holiday in a useful way and scientists in-volved in crucial field research need committed, interested assistants. Our philosophy is to use the power of travel to help the environment."



Wildlife alert an Earthwatch project with endangered lemurs on the island of Madagascar

Volunteers eager to study the snow leopard will head for the upper Indus valley in northern India and camp in tents as they gather information on food sources, land use and tourism, all of which affect the animals' chance of survival. "They are the world's most elusive and endangered animal and their declining habitat is forcing them to

retreat further into the mountains," Mr Mitchell says.
The project will cost £40,000 and each volunteer's share will be £995, which excludes the cost of travelling to and

In Madagascar, volunteers will pay £750 each to stay at a hotel on Lemur Island as they study the creatures, which have been losing their natural habitat as forests are cleared for pastures and farmland. The team will be led by Josephine Andrews, of University College, London.

have the wonderful experience of walking through these forests, watching the lemurs and recording how they react to "The tragedy is that only 6

per cent of the forest in which the lemms evolved now re-

mains," Mr Mitchell says.

Conservationists are trying to

secure and protect what re-

mains but at the same time

ensure that tourists, the life-

blood of the local economy,

"Earthwatch volunteers will

can still admire the animals.

The project also involves studying the fruits and plants they cat and how these might be affected by the plans of farmers and tour operators.

"Many people are worried about possessing the right skills for our projects but all they need is an observant pair of eyes and the ability to keep their wits about them." This year's Earthwatch pro-

gramme continues to offer cultural projects closer to home, including the chance to join Fabio Carrera, the founder and director of the Venice Project Centre, in documenting the city's crum-bling street altars, bells and public art as a first step to restoration.

In the past 25 years, the charity has supported more than 1,850 projects in 104 countries and contributed almost 4.5 million hours of field research.

Earthwatch has also un-

veiled its largest programme of discovery weekends in Britain. Volunteers can try the Earthwatch experience for short periods, joining in behind the scenes at Kew Gardens or helping to excavate Harcourt, Oxfordshire.

"Our volunteers told us they wanted to dip their toes in the water of Earthwatch before committing themselves to a full two-week project," Mr Mitchell says, "Many of our discovery weekend volunteers have gone on to take part in full projects and have returned again and again."

● For further information, call 01368 31:600 or write to Earthwatch at Belsyre Court, 57 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2

FARES INCLUDE ALL AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAXES

WORLDWIDE - 81279 713 777

LNERICAS — 91279 713 747 ·

SUROPE — 01279 713 737

FIX: 01279 713 714

Philadelphia 2250 Washing Los Angeles 2218 Chicago San Francisco 2218 Canada

London. Birmingham or Manchester may grumble about the cost of short business flights to Amsterdam. Paris or Brussels, but they get off lightly in comparison with their counterparts who are based in Norwich.

The East Anglian capital boasts a single air link, a fourtimes a day service to Amster-dam, which is operated by Air UK. At 300 miles, the Norwich-Amsterdam round-trip is both the shortest and costliest route between the United Kingdom and the Continent

Air UK operates one-class flights on this hop across the North Sea, charging £286 for the cheapest business fare. which equates to a whopping 95.33p a mile.

BY RAYMOND ATHERTON

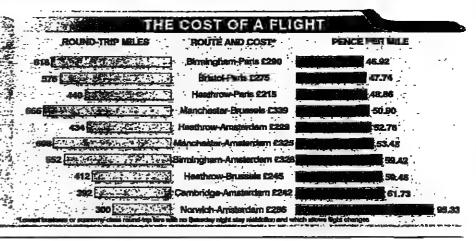
By comparison, a traveller from London bound for Amsterdam pays British Airways business-class rate of £229. or 52.76p a mile, someone from Birmingham pays £328 (59.42p a mile), while the Mancunian gets away with £325 (53.45p a mile).

In defence of its high fares,

must expect to pay for the convenience of flying from

their local airport. The comparison is unfair.
The Norwich catchment area is small. only 600,000 people. so we do not benefit from the volume of traffic as do the airlines flying from main airports, such as Heathrow."

says Phil Chapman, planning director for Air UK. Even so, cynics would argue that Air UK's monopoly had led to East Anglian executives paying costliest air fares.



LAWYERS representing both objectors to and proponents of a planned new fifth terminal at Heathrow last week quietly celebrated the 100th lucrative day of the public inquiry. It has been plodding through the arguments which must be heard before planning permission can be granted, Harvey

Both sides claim to be confident that what they each regard as "common sense" will prevail and that Roy

Elliott writes.

Inquiry drags on

pointed by the Department of Transport, will eventually decide in their favour. It is now regarded as unlike-

that the inquiry will finish before the summer of 1997. well over two years since it

Meanwhile. Heathrow has reached record numbers of passengers — 50 million a year - and is continuing to grow at such a rate that it is in danger of grinding to a halt through

overcrowding.

Already at peak times all the car parks are full, with queues of cars and coaches stretching back along the M4, and passengers are becoming increasingly irritable at the sheer volume of people in the existing four terminals.

TO ADVERTISE CALL 0171 481 1989 (TRADE)

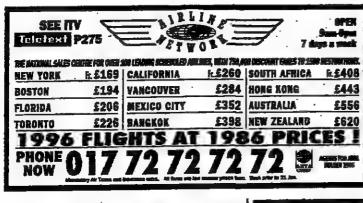
CHECK-IN

FAX: 0171 481 9313





STA TRAVEL







DIRECT



















CALL STATESAVERS FIRST 01932 829233





€ Thomson

Delta Air Lines

LAS VEGAS - SEATTLE - S.FRANCISCO - MIAMI - £110)- NEW YORK FREE

COMBINE LOS ANGELES WITH ANY TWO OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED CITIES FOR ONLY £110 AND WE'LL GIVE YOU A STOP IN NEW YORK FREE



01276 686808

Switzer sees salvation within reach

IN "HOENIX, ARIZONA

A RELIGIOUS fervour that seems foreign to the godless wastes of most professional sport has always clung to the Dallas Cowboys. Their former coach, Tom Landry, was known as God's Coach, and their former quarterback. Roger Staubach, was God's Quarterback. Out there, where the vastness of Texas inspires awe in nature and the land gushes with oil. it is easy to graft a little divine providence on to the football team. In the past two years, though, the spiritual waters have become muddled. As the Cowboys prepare for their third Super Bowl in four years here on Sunday, as hot favourites to beat the Pittsburgh Steelers, the religious



imagery remains, but it is confused. The problem is their

taken to calling him "the anticoach" and he talks about how the qualities of "redemption and vindication" have slipped from his grasp.

Men like Landry and Don Shula, the recently-deposed Miami Dolphins head coach, acted like evangelists and the shock of their passing has not been eased by the ascension of a man with Switzer's reputation. The demons have raged around him since he was a child growing up in the poverty-stricken backwoods of Arkansas, where his bootlegger father was shot dead by police. His mother committed suicide when he was 18.

He found a measure of salvation in building an outstanding 15-year record as head coach of the University of Oklahoma before chaos returned. He encouraged his young players to dress how they wanted and say what they wanted, but they went too far. One was arrested for shooting a team-mate, three



Switzer directs operations as the Cowboys progress towards their third Super Bowl in four years. Photograph: Doug Pensinger/Allsport

tempting to sell cocaine to an undercover FBI agent. Switzer was forced to resign.

There was an inevitable outery two years ago when the Cowboys' controversial owner, Jerry Jones, dismissed Landry's popular successor. Jimmy Johnson, despite two successive Super Bowl triumphs, and handed Switzer the job. Some players threattors said Switzer was just an obedient vehicle for Jones's coaching ambitions.

Switzer was pilloried when the Cowboys failed to reach a third consecutive Super Bowl at the end of his first year and. earlier this season, he was harangued for tactical blunders that cost the team a

victory against the Philadelphia Eagles. That led to head-lines like "Bozo the Coach" "Dumb and Dumber". "He doesn't get it." Mike Ditka, the former Chicago Bears coach, said. "He's miss-

ing the whole boat."

His descent into darkness seemed inevitable, but, as the Cowboys fought their way impressively towards the Sun Devil Stadium here, the critics began to waver. Suddenly, his players began saying how much they respected him, how he may not be a clever manipulator like Johnson but is a subtle motivator, that he boosts the confidence of his men with his support. He is on

the verge of transformation

from sinner to saint and there

them so that they become a

ifferent animal. It is a question of

Mr Ouseley contended that care-

ful reading of section 14 of the 1992 Act and of the commission's

proposed structural and boundary

hanges were so interlinked that it

was not possible for the secretary

of state to accept the structural change and reject the boundary

not agree with the composite

section 15 and direct a further

he could not. Mr Quselev submit-

LJ Ch 730). There appeared to his

Lordship to be no relevant distinc-

position of a solicitor and an

accountant in that respect. There-

fore the principle laid down by the

Court of Appeal in In re Capital

Fire Insurance Association applied

Section 221 of the Companies Act

1985, as amended by section 2 of

the Companies Act 1989, imposed a

duty on a company to keep accounting records Section 222

specified where and for how long

the records were to be kept. Those

were important provision of the 1985 Act for which there was a

criminal sanction if they were not

Mandatory duties were imposed

on officers of the company to keep

the records where they were onen

for inspection. In those circum-

section 221 fell squarely within the

principle in In re Capital Fire

Accordingly, each of the care

gory of documents (a) to (e) should

he delivered up to DTC. The

accountants could not lawfully

Solicitors: Dawbarns, Wisbech.

Wright & Jakes.

Insurance Association.

retain a lien over them.

equally to accountants

solicitors.

complied with.

is nothing like the concentrated hype of Super Bowl week to accelerate the process. Deion Sanders, the Cow-

boys' celebrated cornerback and receiver, led the backlash of praise with typical immod-eration yesterday. "Barry's a great guy, man." he said. "To criticise him was really uncalled for. Soon Barry will look like the genius he is. He's a great coach and a great friend. We stick up for Barry because we gotta lotta love for him. There ain't no monkey on his back.

Switzer, 58, makes a good job of his own defence, too. There is no bitterness in his words, even if there is nervousness in his demeanour. He is candid, amiable and

articulate. After you listen to his players affirming their admiration for him, hear his explanations of his actions and remember the exalted position the Cowboys find themselves in, "Bozo the Coach" takes on the air of

devilish invention.

"They say this is still Jimmy's team and that I have not made any changes," he said, "but to have done so would have just been ego and that is unimportant to me. The smart thing is not to mess things up in a great team. The dumb thing is to change things just to make a show of it.

"People say I'm not assertive enough, but I don't have to dog-cuss anybody to get my message across to them. When

me a bouquet or patted me on the rear end. I gave him greater effort.

You'll always have your critics, but, to me, they're all molecules in the spectrum of the universe. Vindication and redemption are not part of me. If I could win over all of them, it might be, but, after 35 years in this sport, I know that is not possible. They can sit back and take their shots when they want to. They have had to pull back in right now, but they'll reload and fire when it's time to fire."

Salvation may be his if Dallas win on Sunday. Lose, though, and America will make him a martyr to the

Beadsworth banks on financing Olympic medal bid

FROM EDWARD GORMAN SAILING EDERESPONDENT

ANDY BEADSWORTH bas the talent to win a gold medal at the Olympic Games in Savannah this summer, but he may not have the money. Going for gold in sailing now requires a full-time programme from the completion of the national trials to the Games themselves - a tenmonth intensive schedule and Beadsworth, the British Olympic Soling team member, with his crew, Barry Parkin and Adrian Stead, has calculated that he needs around £120,000 to fund the campaign. He is still nearly £60,000 short.

Yesterday, he was training at the Key Biscayne Yacht Club before the opening races in the Miami Olympic Class-es Regatta get under way today. His mind, though, was

"What we are trying to avoid is playing catch up," he said. The trio spent about £50,000 of their own money to get to the national trials in Weymouth last August. Since then, National Lottery funds have bought them a new boat, costing £30,000, and they have received £35,000 from the Royal Yachting Associ-ation. They are getting help from Mars, for whom Parkin works, and from rigging and clothing manufacturers, but there is still a yawning gap, which an expected grant from the Sports Ald Foundation will not fill.

If they do not get the money, they will compromise. "We'll have to pare down what we spend," Parkin said. "and we'll end the Olympics with huge overdrafts."

Beadsworth knows how that feels, having taken 3½ years to pay off the £12,000 debt he was left after his unsuccessful Olympic trials in the Soling class in 1992. Bethan Raggatt and Sue Carr, the British women's 470 team, have secured a £25,000

sponsorship from Yale, the

security products company.

Australia stalwart decides to leave Test scene

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

DAVID BOON is to retire from international cricket after the third Test against Sri Lanka starting at the Adelaide Oval today. The Australia No 3 has scored 7,334 runs, including 21 centuries, in 106 Test appearances since making his debut against West Indies in 1984-85. Boon, left out of his country's World Cup squad, is to continue playing for Tasmania.

Brian Lara has been included in the West Indies squad for the World Cup next month, despite his last-minute withdrawal from the team that played in the World Series Cup in Australia. The selectors have also re-

called Kenh Arthurton, a middle-order batsman, and kept faith with the wicketkeeper.

Courtney Browne. Phil

Sinumons, Stuart Williams
and Andy Cummins have been dropped from a party that includes only one specialist opening batsman.

New Zealand, England's

first opponents in the World Cup, have recalled the all-rounders, Chris Harris and Shane Thomson, to their squad. Thomson will be the second spinner behind Dipak Morrison, who missed the two Tests against Zimbabwe, returns after injury.

The opening pair, Grant Flower and Stuart Carlisle. both scored half-centuries be-fore Zimbabwe settled for a draw in the second Test at Eden Park. Set 367 to beat New Zealand, they finished at 246 for four.

Alamgir Sheriyar, 22, the former Leicestershire left-arm fast bowler, who took a hattrick against Durham on his championship debut in 1994. has joined Worcestershire on a

TRAID JOINED WORKERS HE CONTROL TO THE WORK TO CONTROL TO THE WORK TO THE WORK

Court of Appeal

Law Report January 25 1996

Chancery Division

how clear his view was.

His Lordship disclaimed any

delusions of infallibility but be

lieved the meaning of article 3 to be

so clear that the parties' best

 $\Phi_{m,n}$

Power to replace council

and Others

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Lord Justice Auld and Mr Justice Tuckey

Budgment January 241 Where the Local Government Commission recommended that the existing two-tier structure of seven councils in Berkshire should be replaced by a single-rier structure of five new unitary authori-ties, involving abolition of the county council and the combina tion of two existing authorities, the Secretary of State for the Environunder the Local Government Act

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal from Mr Justice Colli October 6, 1995, who had given judgment for Berkshire County Council, who had challenged a decision by the secretary of state, announced on March 21, 1995, recommendations of the commission in relation to the council's

[992 were sufficient to enable him

authorities should remain

existing area. Mr Stephen Richards and Mr state: Mr Duncan Ouseley, QC and Mr Clive Lewis for Berkshire

DTC (CNC) Ltd v Gary Sar-

Before Mr Michael Crystal, QC

An accountant was not able to

exercise a lien for unpaid fees over

the accounting records of a com-pany which were required by

statute to be kent in specific places

for certain periods available for

as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division, so held in a reserved

judgment on a notice of motion

issued by DTC (CNC) Ltd seckura

an order that Gary Sargent & Co, a

firm of accountants, deliver up to

it, inter alia, all accounting records

owned by DTC which were in the

Mr John Machell for DTC: Mr

HIS LORDSHIP said that DTC

had retained Gary Sargent & Co as

its accountants and during the

dealing with its business affairs to

When the retainer ended DTC

asked to have its documents re-

turned but the accountants de-

clined to return them on the

ground that they were entitled to a

retainer had delivered door

Richard Handyside for Gary Sar-

accountants' possession.

Mr Michael Crystal, QC, sitting

Godernent January 191

gent & Co

Council and the Royal Borough of Vindsor and Maldenhead.

sald that the Issue could be put very simply: the commis borough councils, Bracknell Forest and Windsor and Maidenbead, be combined to form a new unitary authority. That was a discrete state to accept, reject or implement in a modified form. What he could not do according to the applicants. whatever language he might use, was to reject the recommendation ferent, and that, they contended,

was what happened that the commission had recommended structural change for each existing district or bemugh council and in addition a housedness change to facilitate structural

It was the structural change, universal support, which was the driving force, and once that was realised it became possible to rejecting the proposed boundary was more than a modification of the recommendation.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY

ed that two existing ation which vection 17(i) of the Local Government Act 1992 permitted the secretary of

The secretary of state submitted

In relation to the statutory provisions which were being considered, Mr Justice Jowitt said in R v Secretary of State for the Environment. Exparte Lancashire County Council (1994) 4 All ER 165, 173): "... although the secretury of state has wide powers to modify the commission's recomons, he cannot transform

Accountant has no lien

over company papers

lien over certain categories of

accounting and record documents.

specifically (a) sales invoices (b)

purchase invoices (c) cheque books

(d) paying in books and (e) bank

a lien over books of accounts, files

and papers which had come into

their possession in the course of

their work was well established Woodworth v Conroy [1976] QB

884). However, the right to exercise

such a lien might not be enforce-

For example, section 246/2) of the

Insolvency Act 1986 made such a

lien unenforceable when a com-

pany was in administration or

liquidation or where a provisional

liquidator had been appointed "to

the extent that its enforcement

would deny possession of arry

books, papers or other records to

relation to solicitors that a solicitor

was not able to exercise such a lien

ments were required by statute to

be kent in a specific place: see In re

ation ((1883) 24 Ch D 408) followed

in In re The Anglo-Maltese

Hydraulic Dock Co Ltd (0585) 54

There was a line of authority in

the office-holder".

able in some circumstances.

documents for unuaid fees

Regina v Secretary of State County Council: Mr James modification Mr Richards relied as he did. That amounted to a she did. That amounted to a shire County Council and substitution of a decision of the recommendation and a substitution of a decision of the WLR 1245, 1257): "To some extent His Lordship concluded that the

the matter must be one of imcase had suffered from a considpression . . . For one proposal to be eration of individual statutory fairly regarded as a modification of provisions which had been so clos another proposal, one must be able other to recognise it as still being that other proposal, even though changed." as to lose sight of the relatively Pursuant to section 13 the secretary of state had directed the

conduct a review of the whole the commission to recommend the type of changes defined in section 4. That submission empowered the secretary of state to give effect to all or any of the recommends tions with or without modifications. Although the five unitary

uthorities option was embraced in what the commission described the commission's form of mesenta tion was not conclusive, as Mi Justice Laws had pointed out in R v Secretary of State for the Environment. Ex parte Wycombe District Council tunreported, May 25,

For each of the five areas considered the recommendation was that there be structural change to a single tier of local government, and for one of those five areas there was recommended boundary change which, for economic reasons, the commission considered necessary to facilitate

the structural change.
The recommendations were free standing in that the secretary of state could have accepted recommendation to create a unitary authority in one borough and rejected the remaining recom-mendations, but there was also a degree of interlinkage as was secretary of state deciding to create four unitary authorities but taking no action in relation to the fifth. The rums of the county would be with two tiers of local

That showed that section 1701 of the 1962 Act had to be read in context, and given a generous interpretation. The boundary change proposed, although substantial, was only proposed to facilitate the proposed structural

It might have been peographically quite minor, and yet, if Mr Ouseley was right, the secretary of state shands would have been ned. He could not have rejected the recommended boundary change and given effect to all the proposed structural changes having modified this Lordship used the word advisedly) the area in which one of the recommendations for structural change was to take effect. That could not be how section 17(1) was intended to operate.

Lord Justice Auld and Mr Justice Tuckey agreed. Solutions, Treasury Solution: Sharpe Priichard for Mr D K. H. Over, Reading: Mr A. I. Jack,

Before Mr Justice Robert Walker

[Judgment January 17] Council Directive 77/187/EEC, the rights directive, (OJ 1977 No L61/26) clearly required member states to provide, on the transfer of an undertaking, protection only for employees' accrued pension rights, so that the omis-sion to require provision for the

protection of prospective pension rights had to be regarded as Article 3(3) had been correctly transposed into the domestic law of the United Kingdom by the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of No 1794). It was therefore un-

the European Court of Justice. held in the Chancery Division, in dismissing an originating sum mone issued on October 4, 1994 he Barbara Adams and ten other school dinner ladies, previously employed by Lancashire County Council, after a successful compe ive render to take over their work by the third defendant, BET Cater-

ing Services Ltd. Article 3 of Directive 77/187 provides: "I The transferor's rights and obligations arising from a ing on the date of a transfer within reason of such transfer, be trans

*2 Following the transfer . . . the serve the terms and conditions agreed in any collective agreement on the same terms applicable to the agreement...

ower employees' rights to old-age, invalidity of survivors' benefits under supplementary company or inter company pensions schemes outside the statutory social security chemes in member states

Member states shall adopt the measures necessary to protect the interests of employees and of persons no longer employed in the ransferor's business at the time of the transfer ... in respect of rights conferring on them immediate or prospective entitlement to okl-age benefics, including survivors' hence subparagraph.

Mr Brian Langstaff, QC and Miss Helen Mountfield for the playntiffs; Mr Patrick Elias, QC and Mr Jason Coppell for Lancashine Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Peter Cranfield for BET. MR JUSTICE ROBERT

WALKER said that the Government's position was that it had implemented the second sub-paragraph of article 3(3) by the social security legislati enacted in Part IV of the Pension Schemes Act 1993. It was common ground that the

directive had to be construed

sion rights were recognised by Community law as a form of pay, it was unfair to his clients to come to work for BET one Monday, finding, because they no longer had pension rights in respect of current service, their total pay was less than when they had stopped work for the council on Friday, obviously contrary to

In fact, however, the directive's final form bore almost no resemblance to the original proposal; so Community had found the matter controversial and difficult.

Two points, however, seemed clear: that its general purpose was to protect workers rights in a period of rapid economic and technological change via partial armonisation of their rig that its final text did, for reasons which might have been practical or political or a mixture, make an His Lordship set out all three

parties' principal submissions on

the directive, referring to some two dozen authorities, before concluding that it was a short point, or which he had very little doubt. The first subparagraph of article 3(3) used wide, general language to make an exception from the wide, general language of article 31): the European Court decision in Abels

v Bedrijfsvereeniging voor de Metaalindustrie (Case 135/83) [1985] ECR 469) was at least consistent with, and probably supported that view. The second subparagraph, on the other hand, used much more complicated and precise language to identify the interests which i was the duty of member states to otect for both current employees

and ex-employees, language apt to

describe accrued rights and noth

The meaning could have been even plainer had the word "ac-crued" been used and had the v Royal Exchange Group Assurance (Case C-262/88) ([1990] ICR Ten Oever v Stichting Bedrijfspensjoenfonds voor het Glazenwassers- en Schoonmaak hedriff (Case C-109/91) ([1995] ICR 74) and Coloroll Pension Trusteen Ltd v Russell (Case 200/91) (1995) ICR 179) no doubt "accrued" would

have been used. His Lordship bore in mind what the European Court of Justice had said in CILFIT v Italian I Ministry of Health (Case 283/81) ([1982] ECR 3415. 3430) as to the need to interpret such provisions with regard to the state of Community law, not at the date when a directive was enacted, but when i fell to be applied.

His Lordship's view of the directive did leave a gap but its language compelled him to con-clude that the European Council must have recognised, and accepted that gap; hence there was no inconsistency between the munity law the national court would be predisposed to find such intention had been achieved: see

Future rights not protected

Duke v Reliance Systems (1988) AC 618, 638) per Lord Templeman. Mr Langstaff had urged that the matter be referred to the European Court. Although the facts had been established and the issue could be

prospects of saving time and money lay in a refusal to refer.

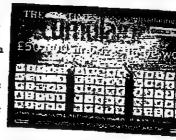
Solicitors: Brian Thompson & Partners; Mr Ian Pye, Preston:



worth £50,000 This is day four of our exciting new scratchcard game. HOW TO WIN A PRIZE

If you reveal five identical symbols, for example five pairs of sunglasses, on your Game I grid any day this week, you will win a free flight for two with Virgin Atlantic. On the day you get your fifth symbol, you must claim your prize immediately by phoning our Accumulator hotline 0171-867 0406 between 9.30am and 3pm.

If you reveal one CD symbol on your Game I grid this week, you will win a £5 Virgin Store voucher and must claim your prize the same day by phoning our hotline 0171-867 0400 hetween 9.30-3pm.



Late claims will not be accepted for any of the prizes. Full details of how to play are on the card which you should have received with Monday's newspaper. If you did not get a card, please call: 0171-782 7155 between

9.30am-5pm. You can also play our scratchcard game on the Internet. Call up the Web site on your card and the numbers you should scratch off, which are different to those in your newspaper, will appear on your screen.

FREE FLIGHT WINNERS Mrs J Locke of Colne, Lancs; Mr T Dickinson of Buckhurst Hill, Essex: Mrs E Fryer of Wadebridge, Cornwall; Mr F Earle of Heswall, Merseyside; Mr A South of Towcester, Northants; Mr D Poole of Carbis Bay, Cornwall and Miss H Sheppard of Harrow, Middx.

THESE ARE THE GAME Y NUMBERS YOU SHOULD SCRATCH OFF YOUR CARD TODAY -



2 FOR 1 VIRGIN FLIGHTS - SEE PAGE 6

seleavi siggins spiral i secline

Loss leaves Higgins in spiral of decline

THE decline of Alex "Hurricane" Higgins, the most controversial figure in the history of professional snooker, now seems irreversible after his elimination from the Embassy world championship by a part-timer market trader.

By far the worst season in Higgins's tempestuous 25-year career came to an acrimonious and undignified end in Blackpool on Tuesday night when he was beaten 10-7 by Surinder Gill, of Bournemouth, in the eighth qualifying round of the championship he won in 1972 and 1982. Higgins displayed such typi-cally petulant behaviour in defeat that the result did not generate the sense of loss normally associated with the last hurrah of a great

Higgins has lost 11 of the 12 matches he has contested this season. All of those defeats have come at the hands of less experienced, lowerranked opponents, four of whom are outside the top 100. With the exception of the 1990-91 season, when he was serving a suspension for a package of offences that included punching an official and threatening to have Dennis Taylor "shot", it is the first time that Higgins has failed to qualify for the concluding phase of at least one tournament.

He is now sure to be relegated from the world's top 64 when the rankings receive their annual revision in May. That will add two more matches per event to his already heavy qualifying load and it is difficult to imagine him reaching a main venue

Higgins, 47 in March, has not mellowed with the years. Entering the post-match press conference looking unsteady on his feet and reeking of alcohol, Higgins immediately launched into what has become a regular attack on the sport's governing body, the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA). Had the same complaints not been aired in public so many times before,

stances, it was impossible to escape the conclusion that they were merely convenient

"I have 17 charges against the association and over the next few weeks, if they don't unswer them, I'll see them in the High Court," Higgins, who in recent years has also made a habit of being scathingly critical of many well-

respected referees, said. "My livelihood has been taken by the association. I hope to disgrace the people who run this game, I fear the worst for this rotten gathering of old men and young boys who call themselves snooker professionals."

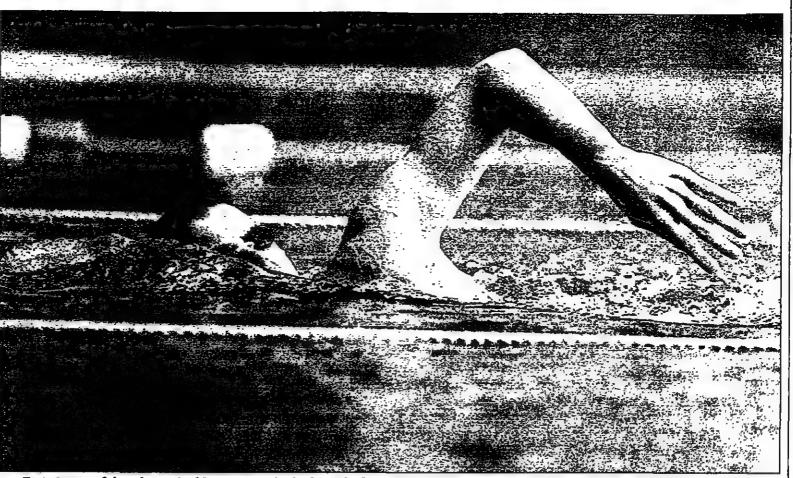
Higgins's solicitor, Robin Falvey, has filed his complaints, which are directed the WPBSA board, its tournament director, Ann Yates, its medical officer, Dr David Forster, and its solicitor, Matthew McClay.

Higgins, though, could now be forced to attend another disciplinary hearing after being reported for making a "derogatory remark" to Lawrie Annandale, an off-duty referee, as he left the Norbreck Castle Hotel.

As two years have not yet passed since Higgins was given a suspended one-year ban for infringements of the WPBSA's disciplinary code at the 1994 world championship, the alleged verbal abuse could have serious consequences. Effectively, though, the abysmal form shown by Higgins this season has already guaranteed his exile from the limelight. The same applies to Cliff Thorburn, the 1980 world champion, but there the similarity ends. Thorburn, unsuccessful in his last nine matches, seems unlikely to leave his Toronto base to compete next season, but has, in contrast to Higgins, stoicalaccepted his demise.

Higgins certainly looked like one of the "old men" to whom he referred as he struggled without success to

Ruckwood and Foster prove their pedigree



Foster's powerful stroke carries him to an emphatic victory in the 50 metres freestyle in Sheffield yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

BY CRAIG LORD

QUALITY stood out as Rembrandis would at a local arts and crafts show as the first of six European rounds of the swimming World Cup ended in Sheffield yesterday. Thankfully, at least two Britons, Adam Ruckwood and Mark Foster, were in the master

Ruckwood, 21, a sprout of chest hair showing that he had not shaved down for the World Cup and is still in heavy training, set a British record of Imin

backstroke. The time, 0.41sec inside the record he set this time last year and the third-fastest in the world this season, marks the latest stage of a seemingly unstoppable progress for the Birmingham swimmer. His best time has cascaded down from 2min 1.90sec in 1993, through 2min 0.15sec in 1994 and Imin 56.4 sec last year.

There is much more to come from Ruckwood, who, like Foster, viewed Sheffield merely as a barometer to his progress in pursuing greater glories at the Olympic Games in Atlanta this summer. Foster, 25, the defending

tion to secure one of the five

places in Atlanta after three

draws in four games. Holland

are the new leaders of the

group after an astonishing 9-4

victory over Belgium

Robert Thompson had two

early chances to give Britain the lead. His first effort hit the

crossbar while his second

opportunity was struck

Nevertheless. Britain

gained the lead that their early

pressure deserved in the sev-

enteenth minute when Giles

advanced from his customary

position on the bench to score

from a short corner. The goal

bã

gδ B¥4

Bhd2

Rhb8

and5

straight at the goalkeeper.

World Cup sprint freestyle champion. was 0.61sec quicker than his nearest challenger in the 50 metres freestyle - a race in which just 0.2sec often splits eight swimmers in a field of high quality.

Foster could be pleased with the technical progress he is making in his quest to rival the favourite, Alexander Popov, in Atlanta, but, on yesterday's overall performances, the swimmer to watch for at the Games is Ding Chujin. Ding's progress from outside the top 100 in the world last year into the top ten brought him a second

World Cup victory in Sheffield yesterday, with a time of Imin 0.87sec in the 100 metres breaststroke.

Ding, 20. is similar in style and physique to Norbert Rozsa — the muscular Hungarian who was virtually unknown before he deprived the British swimmer, Adrian Moorhouse, of the world No I spot in sprint breaststroke in 1991. Yesterday, Ding was never in danger of being defeated and he maintained his fast pace in the closing metres when others started to tire. His relative progress since 1993 puts that of Ruckwood in the shade.

Armstrong wins place on bench for visit of France

By MARK SOUSTER

AFTER threatening the axe in he event of failure in Dublin, the Scotland rugby union se-lectors have, in the light of an uplifting victory, understandably named an unchanged side to face France at Murrayfield on Saturday

However, in announcing vesterday the team that won 6-10 at Lansdowne Road in the teeth of a gale, rain and a torrent of pre-match criticism, Jim Telfer, the chairman of selectors, said that selection had not been a "rubber-stamp exercise" - a statement that may give hope to the backs. Kenny Logan and Craig Chalmers, who are again over-

Weaknesses, which were evident before the game, still existed, he said, particularly at the lineout, while some players showed a worrying naivery about some laws of the game. which France, of all sides. would exploit.

"However, we decided that the team performance, especially in defence, was greater than individual performances and it would have been remiss of us to drop anyone having played well," Telfer said.

The selectors also toyed with the idea of reshuffling the back three, as well as including Damian Cronin to counter the physical threat France will pose, but decided to keep faith with players who rose to the occasion in Ireland.

The only change to the 21man squad is the inclusion, among the replacements, of Gary Armstrong, now of Newcastle, who showed, especially during the second half in Scotland A's defeat by their Irish counterparts last Friday. that he is fast regaining his appetite and form.

However, it would have been unthinkable even to consider replacing Bryan Redpath, who was outstanding in Dublin and is a player whose game. Telfer said, fined Scotland's new approach and whose service, against freland, was as good as he had

SCOTLAND R.J.S. Shapherd (Metrorg) C. A. Joney Metrosey, S. Hastings Wassonemo I C. Jardene (Siring) Counsy) M.Dods (Normampton), G.P.J. Townsend (Normampton) B.W. Redpath (Metrose) D.I. W. Hillon, Bath. K.D. McKenze, Shring, Communications of the Medical Communication of the Commu G Amstrong (Newcastle), S Murray (Earnburgh Academicais) A P Burnell (Landon Scotlish), J A Hay (Hawick)

Juage the) 10-7, S Gill bit A Higgaris (N ke) 10-7

SWIMMING

twice and should have contain Gill, who is No 91 in capitalised on their territorial the world rankings. After this, advantage earlier. them fifth in the tournament they would have had more snooker could have seen its impact. Given the circum- last Hurricane warning. table, comfortably in conten-

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Playing on your weakest suit seems odd, but it can be effective at all levels of the game. This is a hand from the match between China and Italy, in the round-robin stage of the 1995 Marlboro

muda bowi.		
Dealer East	'Game All	IMP's
	+Q543	
	¥K93	
	+10 # 2	
	+ 10 4 3	
092	N +Jas	
¥A874	W E ¥1052	
+K43	BBLA+	6
+J872	S 515	
	♠ A K 10 7	
	4016	
	+ Q7	
	+AKQ8	

Contract: 3 NT by South

Lead: Four of bearts

South opened 2 NT and North contract was also 3 NT at the raised to 3 NT. In the Bulletin other table, but the Italian of the event, Barry Rigal West led a diamond and beat reported that Versace (South, the contract at once. ☐ The 1996 Macallan Internafor Italy) had a poor result on the previous board. With that tional pairs championship preying on his mind, he was in started yesterday, at The White House Hotel. Albany the mood for a coup. The fact that Four Spades was laydown against reasonable breaks might have affected

Having escaped a diamond lead, many players would have taken the losing line of playing spades and clubs. hoping to make eight tricks there to go with the heart won on the opening lead. However, after winning the queen of hearts in hand, Versace crossed to the queen of spades and led a diamond to the queen and king.

and continued hearts and now

Street, London, NWI. Early leaders were the British junior world champions Jason and Justin Hackett. Scores after one round: 1 J &

J Hackett (GB) 59 victory points; 2 A Forrester & A Robson (GB) 53 VPs; 3 N Nickell & R Freeman (USA) 52 VPs; 4 Sabine Zenken Auken & Daniela Von Arnim (FRG) 49 VPs; 5 P Schemla & M Perron (France) 44 VPs. Ticket information: 0181-878

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on Not unnaturally, West won bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

CHERRYBUMS a The 11th Hussars b. Raw recruits

c Soldiers in Heaven

SALTHORSE a. Salt beef

 A non-specialist naval officer c. A naval riding school

LORD LOOK-ON a. The first accredited war corr b. Lord Lucan c. The Grand Old Duke of York

UMBO a. United Corps of MOs b. US Marine Band Organisation



15 B/1

16 Qt3

17 Qe3

18 c4

19 24

20 a5

21 Oe2

23 Au3

24 d5

25 cud5

26 Bb5+

28 Qf4+

Bc6

White: Robert Bellin

Gausdal, January 1996

Schmidt Benoni

Black: Olkinuora

22 Oxd2

CHESS CORRESPONDENT British wins

By RAYMOND KEENE

Great Britain

FROM SYDNEY FRISEIN

IN BARCELONA

HOCKEY matches between

Great Britain and Spain usu-

ally quicken the pulse and

yesterday's meeting in the Olympic qualifying tourna-

ment here was no exception.

Britain surrendered the lead

The British contingent was much in evidence in the Gausdal tournament that finished last week in Norway. John Emms, from London, celebrated his recent award of the grandmaster title by winning this sharp, attacking game. Not to be outdone, Robert Bellin, the former British champion, also notched up a miniature win.

White: Emms Black: Haveland Gausdal, January 1996

Centre Counter Defence

2 Nc3 3 Nc3 Das A MES Bf5 5 d4 6 802 сB 7 Bc4 038 8 Na5 9 Note: Nd7 11 Nxd7 Rxd7 12 3 Qg6 Bd6

13 0-0 Diagram of final position a b c d e f g h

යර 3 05 Nbd7 6 NI3 Bg7 thirtS Ng4 Nde5 S bre5 K/B 10 Bb5+ 11 Nve5 12 0-0 13 Be2 55 14 Re3 Bb7 Rc8 15 Bac5 15 16 b4 17 94 Nb.gH Tit Bug4 20 Be4 RI8 21 Rd8+ KxtB 22 Qt3+ **B16**

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

Black resigns

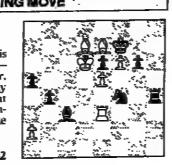
WINNING MOVE

23 Qui6+

By Raymond Keene

White to move. This position is from the game Adams — Hodgson, Hastings Premier, 1991. Here, White found a way to force a gain of material that subsequently led to him winning the game. What did he play?

Solution on page 42



TABLE

Britain settle for point after losing lead twice

was the spur Spain needed and immediately Escarre missed an easy chance by shooting over.

to the interval, with Mason saving from Escarre, and, after a frantic scramble.

Giles was confined to the bench while their strategy of attacking from the right kept Britain pegged back. Their second equaliser came in the Maurino forced the hall home

intentions. Spain duly equalised in the 43rd minute through Amat. Britain's response was inst-

ant and they were back in front two minutes later. Nick Thompson delivered the ball from the left and Robert Thompson shot home. Spain's tactic of not conceding short corners meant that

scare for Britain when Spain failed to convert a short corner relieved David Whitaker, the Britain coach, said: "When they won their only penalty corner 25 seconds from the end, I was glad to get away with a draw."

SPAIN: R Juliece J Malgosa J Amar R Sele, J Amau V Puol J Garcia-Maurine P Usoc, A Iglanias, J Eccano, I Amau Suos used Y Escude J Dimares GREAT BRITAIN S Mason (Reading) J Wyatt (Reading) Some Singh (Southgate), G Fordham (Hounslow), Kalbir Takher (Cannock) S Hazirti (Hounslow), C Mayer (Cannock), J Shaw (Southgate), R Thompson (Hounslow) J Lastert (Tedding)or, cartain in Thompson (No Loughtonians), Subs used: C Giles (Havani) H Hoskin Gastrae (Heffel) Reading), D Half Pauldloid Umphas: Pivon Reth (Holland) and 5 Ehlers: (Cenmark)

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA)* Toronto 86 New Jersey 79, Albama 84 Cleveland 72; Indiana 117 Proente 102 Orlando 105 Philadelphia 90, Chrisgo 99 New 761-79 Ulah 96 Portland 72; Dellas 111 Sacrameri-

BOXING

YORK HALL, Bethnal Green: World Boring Organisation inter-continental super-middleweight championship Math Delaney (Weel Ham, holder) by Daron Grintra (Rhonoda) pits Super-barratin Spencer Oliver (Barnet) by Fischy Beard Logginstern ses of ond Light-middle Stove Roberts (Redhill) drew with Karl Taylor (Bernigham) Light-middle Stove Roberts (West Harr) by Andy Janes (Liverpool) pits Super-middle Burch Lesley (Islandon) by Michael Pinnock (Birmingham) pits

CRICKET Kc7 Second Test match New Zealand v Zimbabwe

ALICKLAND (final day of live) New Jealand NEW ZEALAND: First trainings 251 (S.P. Fleming 84): Second Immings 441 for 5 dec (C.M. Speatman, 112; R.G. Tarose 94, A.C. Parcie 36, C.L. Carris, 120) ZIMBABWE: First tenings 326 (D) L Houghton 104 not out)

G W Flower c kennedy is Parel S V Carislec Fleming is Kennedy G J Whitali c Gormon is Patel "¡A Flower not out
A D R Campbell c German b Twose
C B Wishart not out
Extras #6 6 nb 8, at 2)

Second Immgs

BOWLING Allot 19:3-53-0 Carris 23:6-49-0; Kennedy 22:3-61-1; Petel 27:4-60-2 Larson 5-3-8-0 Timbe 3-1-5-1 Aste 1-0-4-0

HOCKEY BARCELONA: Olympic qualifying tour-nament: Canada 1 Malaysia 2: India 2 Belorussia O, Spari 2 Great Britain 2 Holland 9 Belgium 4

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): New Jersey 3 Los Angeles 1 Flonda 5 Washington 4

ICE SKATING SORIA: European champonshiper Palis (atter short programme) 1 M Whethel and I Seuer (Geri 0 5 factored plazements 2 O 8 ambons and A Dmitter (Fuss) 1 0 3, M Ethova and A Bushkov (Russ) 1 5 British

placing: 11, L Rogers and M Aldred 5.5 MOTOR RALLYING

Aich-off 7.30pm unless stated PONTRNS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Pirot di-vision: Energool v Shetield United (at Southport FC, 7.0). Second division: Grandsh. Tokur v Bracked Ch; 17.0). Action Villa v Sunderland 17.0).

UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Peacohoven and Telscombe v

24hr skiing information direct from the resorts in: AUSTRIA . FRANCE . SWITZERLAND . ITALY REST OF EUROPE . N. AMERICA/CANADA SPAIN/ANDORRA . ROMANIA/BULGARIA Or for a faxed report, dial: 0891 662 258 from a telephone linked to a fax machine

@WEATHERLINE 0891 333 462 Comprehensive outlook in the skiing areas for the week ahea Scottish ski resorts -aria. 0891 200 627

306) at 3mm 29sec, 3, A Schwarz "Ger Toyota Celicer 4 56. 2 B Begun (Fr. Subaru Impezza 9 28. 5 C. Baroni (Fr. Subaru Impezza 1 4.1, 6 ir. Postel (Helf. Subaru Impezza 1 2 20

SKIING

VALLOIRE, France: World Cup: Merc Super-grant statom: 1. H France (Austria) Intr. 01 29sec. 2, A Skaardal (Nor) 1.01.55 3. F. Nyberg. (Swe). 1.01.57, 4, 3. Mader (Austria). 1.01.63. 5. A Fotion. Ill. 1.01.71.6 equal. L. Alphand. (Fr.). and D. Ranther; (US). 1.01.72. British profition, 49. G.Bell. 1.04,23 (austria). 1.01.63.

1 Ct. 72 Birtish poetion, 49 G Bett 1 C4 23 Lauding standings. Super-gent statem. 1 Shades 189 3 Ct. Nus. 189 3 Ct. Nus. 180 4 Nyterg 141, 5, R. Noell Austral 125, 6 A Fator iff 19 Deveate 1 has 956, 2 G. Mador (Austria) 753, 3, M. Yon Grunder (Switz) 876, British position, 125 Bett 6

RUGBY UNION

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: First division, Lis-nul 39 Ebba Vole 8, Swanses 13 Pontyreigo 9

WELSH RUKUTU UNION MIDWERK COMPETITION: Pool 8: Dumani 72 Tenty, Uti
12 Natherth & Dandovery 18 Pool CLenharan 24 Scurn Water Police 18 Pool
D. Bonyman 18 Meessing 35, Tondu 6
YSUAdigniss 30

REPPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Oxford
University 25 RAF 23

MONTE CARLO RALLY Leading positions: 1, P Bernardini (Fr. Ford Escori) 3hr 52min 19sec, 2, F Delectur (Fr. Prugos)

FIXTURES

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First di vision. Totion v Lymmyton

BLACKPOOL Embassy world champronship: Bighth qualitying round (England
unless stated) Dible (Wales) bi Judinison
10-7 G Groene bi DiMountio, (Wales) 10-8
W Brown St S Newbur, (Wales) 10-9 R
Lawler bi D Carlot 10-8 A Bolsover bi L
bodd 10-5, E Henderson (Scott bi P
ICS Philips (Scott 10-5 M Haller) bi Brundly
10-5 J Bach bi C Shade (Scott bi M
Flowender bi G Saldrey 10-2 M Craw bi P
Brunder 10-7 C MacGillma, (Scott bi M
Schnort (Wales) 10-9 J Burnett (Scott bi M
Schnort (Wales) 10-8 T Murphy (I/I tre) bi S
Don (Scott 10-8, A Done) (Wales) bi M
Dzewnatiowsky (Scott 10-7 D Fowler or M
Dzewnatiowsky (Scott 10-7 D Fowler or M Crowborough:
SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Under-19 Trophy, Stallordshire v West Midlands (at Chase Town FC). English Snickers Under-19 Trophy (sel-SFC v St Badle's SS, Bradiord (1-20). English Goodyear Under-16 Trophy-Hitesten 15 (Nortol') v Ch of Ety College (Carriss, 2 & English garts Vernas Under-16 Trophy). Lossoch HS (Greater Manchester) v Reaminal HS (Merse, side 3-30), Gambelde (Norts') v Hall Coros Comp (South vorkshire, 1-30). Natthey, 4mold (Sugrey) v Homewood (Nersi 2-30).

BOWLS: CIS Welst: Masters (Lianeth) English Indoor Bowling Association • English Women's Indoor Bowling Association (Loddon Valc Basinguiste

DESCOVERY DATA: LONGEST MAINNED SPACEFLIGHT, USSA 1892 CT/ DAYS **9PM TONIGHT** AND EVERY WEEKDAY 2 HOURS OF FACT PACKED, HIGH SPEED, HI-TECH TELEVISION.



SWIMMING

SHEFFIELD: World Cup meeting: MenFreestyle: 100m. 1, S. Burm. (Jam.)
19 95sec 3 M-Foster (Ch. of Cardit 50 nd)
400m. 1 D Loader (N2) Smin 45 59sec 2 P.
Palmer (Ch. of Lincoln), 3 45 95. Secistroke, 100m. 1 N Wiley (Barner Copinal)
54 28sec 2, A. Ruckwood (City of Brimingham), 54 50 Brimingham; City, of Brimingham; City of Brimingham; City, of Brimingham; City of Brimingham; City of Brimingham; City of Brimingham; City, of Brimingham; City, of Sect. (A. Rapilly), City of Stocked 24 85 200m; N Gallar (Pol) min; 53 36sec Individual medley 100m; J.
Sevinen (Fin) 33 78sec (equals world record) 400m; Sevinen (Fin) 37 8sec (China) to World (China)
19 38sec Women; Freestyle; Som. 1 V. Johansen (Nor) 25 85 200m; N Boom; I Dato, (Nor) 35 60 Bardsstoke; Som equal 1, L. Stera (Loughborough Students) and S.
Pinner Spir 29 95 200m; A Simoer (Nor) 10 98 C. M. Hardman (Ch.) of Bitrangham; 1 10 29; 3 S. Brownsdon (Ca), of Coverny; 1 10 98 Butterfly; (100m; Weild (China) 100m; (China) (C

MELBOURNE, Australian Open: Men: Singles Quarter-finals: 4 Aparts (US) of J Course (US) 6-7, 2-6, 6,0,64, 6-2, 8 Secker Bergot (Fadelinko), Russi 6-4, 7-6

Gresty Road's guru under the microscope

ere and there, football has its minor management miracles. though they tend not to get noticed. Jack Charlton or Brian Clough have received due credit, but those such as Alan Ashman, with Carlisle United. Jimmy Sirrell or Bobby Gould, making bricks without straw, mostly fade into folklore without acquiring lasting

Dario Gradi belongs to the latter breed. Could Alex Ferguson or Kenny Dalglish, with-out inexhaustible chequebooks at their elbow, do what Gradi has done with Crewe Alexandra? Gresty Road, that narrow, terraced red-brick northern street, has changed little in the 120 years since Alexandra was founded, yet step inside the football ground today and it could have come from a Conran design

Born in 1942 in Milan, educated at Glyn Grammar School in south London, an

al in 1969 with Sutton United and one of the few, like Lawrie McMenemy. to become a league manager without hav-ing played the senior league game. Gradi is the definitive English professional.

He is as unremittingly hooked as diehards of the past, such as Bill Nicholson or Bill Shankly, men who lived the game every waking hour. seven days a week, from breakfast to bedtime. This is one reason he remains unmar-

"It probably won't happen now." he admits with a shrug. "Football is a drug, maybe as harmful. I've become selfish for what I want to do. But it's also a creative thing. The reward is seeing things hap-pen on match day that you've worked at in training for hours and hours — a 14-pass move that ends with a goal." Like Shankly, the light in his

David Miller says Crewe will be finely tuned for their FA Cup visit to The Dell

viewed by the Football Associ- to his family. or he's 'conation for the new position of technical director, a possibility that remains in limbo. Meanwhile, he has more urgent matters on hand, such as pressing for promotion to the Endsleigh Insurance League first division and the FA Cup fourth-round match away to

Southampton on Saturday. In financial rankings.
Gradi's budget is at marketstall level alongside the
Asprey's milieu of Manchester United. Crewe's average wage is £17,000 a year, not per week. The other day. I overheard him discussing the possible purchase of a new player with a fellow manager.

"So he thinks he can get X thousand from another dub does he . . . well, you tell him to go and get it . .. next thing, he'll be telling me he's got to be 'fair

cerned about security' ... spare me that ... sorry mate,

we'll get by. See you." Giving early impetus to David Platt's career and the transfer of Rob Jones to Liverpool are milestones in Gradi's vears with Crewe, vet the real achievement has been the conversion of a near-derelict relic into a thriving club, with an all-seat stadium and a generative source of young players. There are some 15 players in the league from Gradi's youth scheme and another 15 on his own books, including Fran Tierney, nearly sold to Liverpool for £700,000. Gareth Whalley, who played for the Endsleigh league against an Italian league side, and Darnny Mur-phy, a member of the England Under-18 side last year, are



Gradi: refiner of talent

other products of a development scheme that costs 6100,000 each year and hand-somely justifies itself. Both were key figures in the Cup victory over West Bromwich Albion and central to the plans for toppling Southampton.
"Whalley's a better technical

director, with the ball, than Platt, but not as effective,"

Gradi says. His ideal player is the one like Platt. or Bryan Robson, who can make goals, score goals, stop goals and never mind the fantasy.

Gradi; as coach, is an unusual blend of sophistication and pragmatism. The two men he learnt most from are Dave Sexton -- "the nearest to what I wanted to he" - at Chelsea, and Charles Hughes, the FA director of coaching. with whom he worked as assistant with England ama-teurs and as FA regional

"Charlie is brilliant," he said. "So much of what he says is true, but his public relations are poor. What I've done is graft some of Hughes onto some of Sexton."

He is puzzled at the contrast between his own reputation. as a constructive coach intent on mobility, and the widespread disaffection for Hughes, alleged villain of the long-ball school. When Gradi took a team of his to be cern any difference.

What has kept him at Gresty Road? There's always been progress around the corner." he says, eagerly. "We've never stood still." Most eve-nings, he is involved in the local centre of excellence, helping Bill Prendergast, the parttime director, to coach ten-to-16-year-olds. He loves hard work, dislikes players who don't, is tolerant of defeat when players have worked.

"In every match, you've got to have had your moments.

The thrill of the game is working with teams, the adrenalin from winning and losing. That's why I'd rather coach players than coach coaches as England technical director. If I got that job. great. I'm not hunting for it.

Southampton? He looks for mobility, to punish any South-ampton player who doesn't work. "If a flash of Le Tissier's touch floors us, that's life."

Grienke is angry at 'dismissal' by London **Broncos**

By Christopher Irvine

AS ONE Australian departed a Super League club coaching position yesterday, another arrived. As London Broncos parted company with Gary Grienke, St Helens put out the welcoming mat for Shaun McRae

Whereas London that said it had failed to reach agreement on a new contract. Grienke, who had been in charge since May 1994, claimed that he had been dismissed. "I'm pretty happy with the work I've done," he said. "I think I've left the club in a better situation

than when I arrived." It leaves London little time to find a successor before their opening Super League fixture, at Halifax on March 31. "We've already had a number of inquiries from coaches interested in the job, but it's a major decision and we don't want to rush into anything." Barry Maranta, the club's chairman, said

Terry Matterson, the captain, and Kevin Langer and Tony Rea, fellow players, will take charge for the Silk Cut Challenge Cup fourth-round tie on Sunday at Dewsbury.

McRae's first sight of St

Helens comes in the Chall-enge Cup at Castleford on Saturday. The Australian has signed a three-year contract at Knowsley Road, in succession to Eric Hughes, who was dismissed last week, after McRae rejected a promotion from assistant coach to take full charge of Canberra Raid-

ers.
"I was feeling like a change myself and I always felt that my next job when I left Canberra would be as a head coach," McRae, 36 said on arrival yesterday. "The fact that happened to be St Helens is tremendous from my point of view in that I've been so highly regarded by their board of directors."

McRae, an assistant at international level to both Aus-

tralia and New Zealand, compared St Helens to the Canberra side of the late Eightles.

"We were scoring many points, but we were also conceding a lot," he said. "We did an awful lot of work to metify that defenetuely Fortus." rectify that defensively. Fortu-nately, it didn't affect our attacking flair."



3 6

Venables revels in questionable practice

YOU would have thought that, by now, Terry Venables might be fed up with questions. Apparently not. For most of this week, he has

only a coincidence that he was

wanted to be asked more. As a contender for question of the month, the one about whether he will change his mind about stepping down as England coach after the European championship this sumbenefit," Edwards said. mer has probably been overtaken by the one to Harri-If the accord does yield any et Harman on the subject of resignation. However, it came up again vesterday and it had the same answer. No. It was

conclude the three-day England squad training session at Bisham Abbey, Venables said that he had been listening for the players asking good questions. "If they ask the right questions, that means they can see what is going on." Venables said. So what was going on? Work on a plan to beat Holland in England's final European championship group match, came the

"Holland are reputedly the best team in the competition and I would not disagree with that," Venables said. "They play differently to anyone else in the world. I have been looking to see how we deal

down to little parts of their game, then I spoke about it for a lengthy spell in the evening. On Tuesday, we practised in games of 11-a-side, then watched videos and they the players started to recognise what was going on." Just as important, given that his squad of outfield players will be limited to 18. Venables became more aware

of the players able to adapt. The emphasis was on using three central defenders, as Holland do, rather than England's traditional four-man rearguard. "The seeds of preoaration," was how Venables described the exercise. "We were looking at it from our point of view and from the

Venables also spoke of playing two attackers wide and a central striker. "If you do that against Holland, you immedintely make them play a back four, which is not what they want to do. so you have changed their game." He said that international

players had to be more adaptable than at club level. "Players at a club, especially if they are successful, think if you do something different and it does not come off, you revert to what is safe," Venables said. "But every time you go up a noich, you have got to learn more.

"If you are going to be with

minds up." Venables said he would be looking for "receptive minds" over the next few

"Apart from Barcelona when Cruyff's been there, I don't think anyone in the world can play the way they [Holland] play," he said. "You have got to know it exactly right and you have got to improve it."

Venables said that he was very close" to knowing the final 20 for his squad. "Do you want me to name them now?" he said, prompting laughter among his inquistors, who knew he would not. Only a few months to go, and

thousands of questions re-Cousins progressing in leaps and bounds

FROM JOHN HENNESSY IN SOFIA

THERE is still a long way to go, but for the moment at least Steven Cousins has achieved the best result by a Briton in the European figure skaping championships since 1980. Torvill and Dean always excepted. He finished third in the men's short programme vesterday, exactly emulating the performance of his namesake. Robin Cousins, at Gothenburg 16 years ago.

Just now, men's figure skating is almost a precise split between those who can bring off the formidable jump combination of triple axel to triple toe loop and those who cannot. Yesterday Cousins was among the few who could, right at the start of his programme. There was a fear then, remembering a year ago, that he might have relaxed, believing the job al-ready as good as done. On that occasion he failed with his

"That taught me a lesson," he said yesterday. "I thought the air, as though scoring the winning goal in the cup final. Asked about his expectations for tonight's final event. Cousins said: "I want to be

of the next thing, and after that the next thing, right to the end. Then he had punched aware of everything that's going on around me because at last year's world champion-

intense and shut myself off." His free programme was poor on that occasion and dropped him from sixth to ninth. "This time I want to be really relaxed and really enjoy what is happening." he added.

By rights, Cousins should have taken second place behind Viacheslav Zagorodniuk.

of Ukraine, but the Bulgarian judge failed to spot a glaring error on the part of Ilia Kulik, of Russia. the holder of the title. Kulik conspicuously contrived only a double lutz as his optional jump when the rules demanded a triple. The statutory deduction for such a mistake is 0.4, so that the judge's 5.8 for Kulik's technical merit should have been 5.4. a tenth of a point behind Cousins. The judges' five to four split for the Russian should have been in the Welshman's favour.

As expected, Neil Wilson, 17, from Belfast, played only a subsidiary role in yesterday's proceedings and was placed seventeeth. He has yet to master the triple axel and triple lutz, but he will be sure to win some new friends in

tonight's free skating. The holders of the pairs title, Mandy Voetzel and Ingo Steuer, of Germany, skated a flawless short programme, leaturing glittering triple toe loops, to lead their event.

Hutchison provides

inspiration ENGLAND'S cricketers are poised for an innings victory in the second under-19 international against Zimbabwe in Harare. After helping to bowl out Zimbabwe for 47 on the first day by taking five for 11, Paul Hutchison took two more wickets for three runs as Zimbabwe slipped to 13 for two in their second innings,

ntill 284 behind. Earlier. England reached 344 for seven before declaring, after resuming on 120 for four. All the England batsmen were among the runs, David Nash eading the way with a painstaking 65 not out. He was well supported by David Sales (50), Owais Shah (45), Gareth Batty (35) and Usman Afzaal (19), who shared an unbroken partnership of 60 with Nash before the declaration.

Steer appointed

Golf: Basil Steer has been appointed president of the English Golf Union at its annual council meeting in London. Steer, 66, from Devon, who has just stepped down as a selector for both England and the Great Britain and Ireland Walker Cup side. takes over from Geoff Marks.

Double trouble

ice hockey: Cardiff Devils and Sheffield Steelers, who are vying for the British League premier division championship, have arranged two friendly challenge matches in the middle of a hectic February schedule - in Cardiff on February 14 and at Sheffield seven days later.

Sandor Iharos

Athletics: Sandor Iharos, the Hungarian middle-distance runner who set it world records for distances from 1,500 metres to 10,000 metres between May 1955 and July 1956, died in Budapest yesterday of heart failure at the age of 65. He missed the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne because of the Soviet Union's invasion of Hungary earlier that year.

United agree influential alliance with **AC Milan** By DAVID MADDOCK

MANCHESTER UNITED and AC Milan, two of the most powerful clubs in European football, have joined forces by drawing up an accord to create an influential voice on important matters in relation to the recent Bosman ruling.

The agreement will see the two clubs, among the wealthiest in the game, working together over such matters as the possible formation of a European super league. They have also reached agreement over transfer links, where players could flow between the

Martin Edwards, the chairman of Manchester United, confirmed that a delegation from his club visited Milan last Friday and agreed to work closely on specific areas of common interest. "I don't want to be drawn," he said, but it is true to say we are looking at a transfer accord post-Bosman and the key area of European competition.

'I don't think it is useful at this stage to go into the matter too deeply. People could misinterpret the situation as the take on Uela [European football's governing bodyl. It certainly isn't that, but we are looking at those areas."

Both Manchester United and Milan are concerned with Uefa's continuing unbending stance over the limitation of clubs to use of three foreign players in a match in European competition. They have already suggested, along with other powerful clubs such as Barcelona and Arsenal, that they will consider creating their own competition if the rule is maintained. Their powerful alliance will reinforce the

Umberto Gandini, Milan's organisational executive and No 3 at the club, explained that they had discussed a new European venture. "We are keen to ensure that Uefa does not maintain the foreigners rule, and we have discussed that." he said. "We also have ideas on the

format of future European competition, and we will continue to work closely with United over those. We would like to see clubs like Milan and Manchester competing

against each other regularly."
It is though, the transfer accord between the two clubs which will generate most immediate interest. They have agreed further meetings to discuss possible movement for players at the end of their contracts — on free transfers as the Bosman ruling demands - between the two clubs. United are interested in the internationals Maldini. Eranio, and the Croatian, Boban. Milan's thoughts are concentrated on Giggs.

Schmeichel and Cantona. Gandini added: "The machinery is in place with regards to movement of players. We see it as beneficial if both freedom the players will have

by setting up an agreement." in essence, the clubs would escape the damaging financial loss the scrapping of transfers would bring, by swapping their leading players when their contracts are at an end. " won't deny that we discussed that, and it is true to say that we are looking at ways of mutually using the post-Bosman transfer system to our

tangible benefits in terms of transfers, it is unlikely to be evident until the summer. when several Milan players. Eranio, a right-sided midfield player, among them, complete



Campbell, left, of Tottenham Hotspur, and Ehiogu, of Aston Villa, take a break from the England training session. Picture: Hugh Routledge

sitting close to a door marked "exit" at the time. Hughes starts five-match ban after referee stands firm

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MARK HUGHES will serve a five-match ban starting with Chelsea's FA Cup fourthround tie at Queens Park Rangers on Monday after Robbie Hart, the referee, refused to back down over sending off the Wales forward against Everton in an FA Carling Premiership match. Chelsea provided the Foot-

ball Association with a videotape of the incident, in which Hughes was accused of stamping on David Unsworth, the Everton defender, and it was passed on to Hart for his observations. Hart nevertheless stuck to his decision that Hughes was guilty of serious foul play. despite the fact that Unsworth has supported Hughes's claim that it was was an accident.

It means Hughes must

THE : TIMES SPORTS SERVICE RACING

Call 0891 500 123 Results Call 0891 100 123 Calls cost 39p per min cheap rate, 49p per min at all other times serve a three-match ban for the sending-off, followed immediately by another two-match suspension for reaching 33 points with nine bookings already this season.

Lee Chapman, the veteran Ipswich striker back at Leeds United on loan, has also lost his appeal against a sending-off. Chapman played only 27 minutes of his second Leeds "debut" against West Ham United on January 13, when the referee, Paul Danson, sent him off for dangerous use of an elbow.

An FA spokesman said: Elbowing offences are pun-ishable by sending-off, whether they are intentional or not. Leeds sent us the video, claiming contact by Chapman was accidental, but we did not even bother sending it to the referee. His decision was totally correct and the suspension

Chapman could therefore have played his last game for Leeds. A three-match ban, starting this Saturday, will cover the remainder of his loan spell for the Yorkshire club, for whom Tony Yeboah will then be available after playing for Ghana in the African Nations Cup. Despite these verdicts. Manchester United will try to use viden evidence to clear Nicky Butt after his sendingoff against West Ham on

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, will hand the Football Association a tape of the incident which led to the midfield player's second vellow card, and he will ask the FA to judge whether Stephen Lodge, the Barnsley referee, made a mistake - the first time United have taken that step since the appeal system was changed on the introduction of automatic suspensions.

Butt faces a one-match ban on February 5 after his dismissal but Ferguson is convinced that his man was harshly punished when he was shown a second yellow card for a 75th-minute challenge on Julian Dicks. Birmingham City are trying

to sign Vinnie Jones. Wimbledon's transfer-seeking captain, and the Everton midfield player. Vinny Samways. Barry Fry, the Birmingham manager, was locked in a board meeting at St Andrew's before his team's Coca-Cola Cup quarter-final replay at home to Norwich City last night, trying to set up both transfer deals. He has made a £500,000 bid for Jones.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

FA CUP: Part round replay. Others America? Somely 1 (Saram away to Semion Tokins Dustrinson). AMELICATURE CUP: Semi-final: looking Tokin Cibit Lab 4. The CRITISE & ENDERGH PISCHANCE LEAGUE Second disting Backgood 1 Wisconde Namewor 1 He Co. C British Cancerd 1 He Co. C British Co. C C British Co. C British C British Co. C B

harders train a Compragn United a Primoria Argine 1 Southorise United a Source Surgi 1 Robinstel 1 Mithamook 1 Ace Sheri 1 Robinstel 3 Robinstel 1 Fresh direction 1 Souther 2 Studies Southers 1 Southers 1 Sherook 1 See Not 2 Mithas 1 Chees of the South Fresh Tangers 0 Sternouseous 2 Sets Fee 2 Third cheston Brookin Co. 3 Added 0 Caeston 2 Not 1 Robinstel 1 Rel 199820 Intoletin Fee mind professional 84 (199820 Intoletin Fee mind professional Facilities of the Professional Prof

Carechite Insect (Horst Lotter) |
RA USBERT INDPHIN First more implayer
Gresser 1 Sandrone 5 Embry 3 Moretamore
1 Itam with 2 medineshado Charles 2 Bor Insect Charlesham 1 Open 1 Jan 5 Sudbury
1 Transmitte 1 and Stouth 4 Fambiology
1 Transmitte 2 Memory 3 Jan 1 Previous 2 Hayes 3 (tast. Admittain 2 Colvent Bay 0, 1 Section 2 Section 3 Colvent Bay 0, 1 Section 3 Section 3 Section 3 Moretage 3 Fambiolis POTANIA BEAZER HOLLES LEAGUE: Prompt de

Michard Griston: Bosiscient 3 Endgrowth of Jewson: Andrew 2 Financian 2 Fostonian 3 Postonian 3 Postonian 2 Overchierth 3 Postonian 3 Postonian 3 Postonian 3 Postonian 3 Postonian 1 Postonian 1 Postonian 2 Overchierth 3 Postonian 2 Overchierth 3 Postonian 2 Overchierth 3 Postonian 2 Overchierth 3 Postonian 2 Postonian 2 Postonian 3 Postonian 4 Postonia

BASICTE TITLES BELLINGS 2 COMMODE & JEWISON SOUTH WESTERN LEAGUE: St. JEWSON SOUTH WESTERN LEAGUE: St. Bazer of Farmorth C. Undoord LEAGUE: Premier chistory of Monthly of ICS LEAGUE: Premier chistory Monthly of Marcor on 5. Pleas chistory Borton Proved 1 Sustain Marcor on 5. Pleas chistory Borton Proved 1 Sustain Only of 5 oppose Plages Town of Second decision Carriery (stand 4.83mm 1 Chistory 5. Pleas 2. Leaduron Hand of Second decision Carriery (stand 4.83mm 1 Chistory 5. Pleas 2. Leaduron Paris 1 Marcolle and Paris 1 Marcolle and Paris 1 Marcolle and Paris 1 Marcolle and Paris 1 Leaduro (Paris 1 Paris design). Barrown 2. Leaduro (Paris 1 Leaduro Carlon Carriery Paris design). Barrown 2. Leaduro (Paris 1 Leaduro Carlon Carriery Paris design). Second 1 Leaduro (Paris Mondal Marcolle Carlon Carriery Paris design). Carriery Carriery Carriery Carriery (Paris Mondal Marcolle Carriery Open Southam). Wood 2 Leven Pernant 5 Parkeel 1 Guardian Indurance Cup. Reseth round: Widingham 2 Hecho 3 IVON INSURANCE COMMINION FOR AVCIN INSURANCE: 1 Southerstein 1 Oceans Park Rangers 1 Octob C Westerd 0

Horwich 1
PONITION CENTRIAL LEAGUE, Plast division Electron (Floringian Fines): Notice County 1 Deby County 1 That division Electron County 1 Deby County 1 That division Encistance 2 Chester Cas 1
PISH UEAGUE: Cool-Cola Floringian Cupe First round, fast lag. Early Chapter 2 First round, second lag. Arts 2 Lans 0 rags 5-9: Bangor 2 Colarane 2 lag. 2-4.
Calconde: Omagn 1 ang. 2-11 Gentron 7 Newsy 0 rags 3-21 Lans 6 rags 4-21.

2)

ATT MILLS LEAGUE Premet discongraph I Twenton Town 4
HORTH WEST COUNTES LEAGUE Couthird round regists: American Collemns 3
Holson 2 Fing divisions Biologous Rovers 1
Rossendals 1 Factor 4 Permit 10; Manie
Inact I Holsonia Bridge (1 Saford On) 1
Hornauthe Town 5
BANKS BREWERT LEAGUE Premit
divisions Cadon 1 Review H4 C. Darlaston 1 Lichheld 3 Hall fog 1 Westerda 4
BRESTIAN EASTERN COUNTES LEA-I Lichield 3 Hill Tog 1 Westbelch 4
JERRSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE Promiter division: Das 4 Sudaum 3
Hadeigh 0 Woodbridge 5, Harriech and
Parkeson 2 Lowestalt 1
JERRSON EASTERN HILLIAMOS LEAGUE
Parmiter division: Royson 1 Nikton Koynes
1 O'Brien/Medicade Bulcharis coop: Third
round, first lag: Shalington 1 Bigglesmade 2
FA YOUTH CLIP: Third round spikly
Enlist 3 Herstond 2

FA YOUTH CUP: Third round suplay Entire 2 Hereford 2 SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier Langua under-18 Trophy Derbyshre O Notinghamahre 1 English Serbooks Seldens under-18 Trophy: High Purcharer Cotago (Nothinghamahre 1 English Serbooks Seldens under-18 Trophy: High Purcharer Cotago (Nothinghamahre 1 Embro Cotago 2 English Goodpar under-18 Trophy: Manifolish Ender 18 Trophy: Manifolish Ender 18 Selder Selder Selder 19 Ministra High Michael 9 Selder Selder Selder 19 Ministra High Michael 19 Selder Selder 19 Ministra High Ministra High

First Life

ships I got too involved, too

مكنات الأصل

Nicholson's stable jockey hopes to be back within three weeks

Maguire receives encouraging bulletin

ADRIAN MAGUIRE is to return to the saddle much earlier than expected after learning yesterday that inju-ries he suffered in a fall on Tuesday are not as bad as first thought.

Maguire braced himself for six-week period on the sidelines when doctors at Leicester Royal Infirmary suspected he had sustained serious damage to his left knee. But Maguire's fears were allayed after a visit to his specialist yesterday.

My doctor told me it was not the cruciate ligament but the mediate ligament that I've injured," the jockey said, "He tells me it is not as important. I should be able to get back in two to three weeks, which I feel much happier about I

Nap: TEINEIN (2.30 Wincanton) Next best: Lets Rumble (2.00 Wincariton)

couldn't have faced missing Cheltenham after what happened last year." Maguire missed all three days of the Cheltenham Festival in March when mourning the

death of his mother. Maguire, who underwent intensive physiotherapy at his home yesterday, said he felt much better than when leaving the Leicester hospital on Tuesday evening. "I'm still quite sore," the jockey said, but it was one of those falls that could have been so much

The prognosis comes as welcome relief to Maguire, whose season has been punctuated by a series of nasty falls. Had he torn the cruciate ligament, he would have struggled to make the start of Cheltenham week.

David Nicholson, for whom Maguire rides, will be delighted with the news. Nicholson saddled three winners at last year's Festival but the gloss

HUNTINGPORE

Coln. 2.20 Mili O'The Rags, 2.50 Go Ballistic. 3.20 Alaskan Heir. 3.50 Milemi Spissh. 4.20 Sir Dente. Our Newmarket Correspondent 2.20 Mill O'The Rage. 4.20 BRAMLEY MAY (nap).

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:



Royal Athlete and Jason Titley, nearside, in full flight on their way to a 40-1 success in last season's Grand National at Aintree

absence.

In the short term, Nicholson has booked Tony McCoy to ride his Cheltenham Gold Cup candidate, Barton Bank. in the Piliar Property Investments Chase at Cheltenham on Saturday. Barton Bank will again be up against One Man, the King George winner, who pleased his trainer, Gordon Richards, in a gallop yester-

day morning. Norman Williamson. another jockey battling for fitness in time for Chelten-

was removed by Maguire's ham, remains optimistic he will return to the fray at Newbury next month. Williamson has spent the week in ireland riding out for Eugene O'Sullivan, the Mallow-based trainer. He has been off the track since breaking his leg in a fall at Sedgefield in October.

"It's going very well," the jockey said yesterday. "I've not been schooling because I don't want to take any chances." However, he ruled out the prospect of his being passed fit to partner Master Oats in the Hennessy Cognac Irish Gold

2.50 BET WITH THE TOTE MOVICES CHASE (Coalifie: £4,170; 3m) (13)

OTF HERRICAN 24 (5.5) D Michelen 9-11-3... R John
450 CHUTE A MAN 8 (F.S.) W John 9-11-0... W 1
P-9 COTATION 10 John Sery 9-10-10... W 1
P-9 PLOTATION 10 John Sery 9-10-10... 3 (3.6)

SOI 2-31 ACT THE WAS E2 (D.F.S) A TO 502 4-15 DO PREPILLY 62 (S) M Bradesco 503 OTHE HERRITERAN SA

Cup a week on Sunday. "Everything depends on some X-rays I'm having on Pebruary 5, but I'm hoping to be back for the Tote Gold Trophy meeting five days later." Williamson, stable jockey to Kim Bailey, is expected to return to

Royal Athlete, the Grand National winner, is among 82 entries for this year's Aintree renewal on March 30. One of five candidates from the Jenny Pitman stable, Royal Athlete has yet to run the term but was yesterday reported in good

1.40 Good So Fa. 2.10 Spencer's Revenge. 2.40 Chemicast. 3.10 Revel. 3.40 Perilous Plight. #.10

THUNDERER

Our Newmarket Correspo 2.10 Spencer's Revenge.

(\$2,837: 1m 4f) (14 runners)

DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1,40 THATCHER LIMITED STAKES

GOING: STANDARD

Folkestone

Going: good (chase course); good to solt (hurdes)

Purcess)
1.20 (2m 1f 110yd hdie) 1, Mirospeld (S. Ryen, 8-4 ter); 2, Mead Court (33-1); 3, Natrawell (SO-1). 19 ram MF. Northam Ningdom. 201, 2l. R Alestrust. Tote: 52:30; 51:10, 517:20, 59:80. DF: 568:80 Trio: not won (pool of \$467.08 carried forwest) to 3.20 at Huntingdom today). CSF-555.13.

256, 13.
1.50 (2m 2i ch) 1, Ubu Val (A S Smith, 11-8 (av, Richard Evers's nap); 2, Ocean Leeder (7-2); 3, Ojonnyo (33-1), 13 ran. 151, 111. W Beingli, Tote: £1.90; £1.00, £1.00, £1.20. DF: £6.50. Tifo: £73.60. CSF: £6.74.

heart by Mark Pitman, assistant to his mother. The horse has been trained all season with a repeat attempt in mind. Party Politics and Milinnehoma, the winners in 1994 and 1992 respectively, are also engaged. Martin Pipe, who trains

Milinnehoma, has set the handicapper something of a poser by including Carvill's Hill among his team of seven. Carvill's Hill has not run since his abortive attempt at the 1992 Cheltenham Gold Cup.
Pipe has indicated that

2.40 MACMULAN HANDICAP

3.10 disraeli maiden stakes

3-1 Leet But Hot Launt, 7-2 Gt La High, 4-1 Susset Harbour, 5-1 Double Or Busil, 6-

DOURS-D-BEYEN M Juhaston 9-0 J Wenner 5
6-22 RANS 12 W Mar 9-8 Jann-Petre Lopie 4
80- ALLSTARS DANKER 35 T Nauphinn 8-0 T Anthry (7) 1
84 CRESTORS 14 M Prescrit 6-8 C Nation 9
9 NORTHERW MERACLE 83 C Visal 6-9 W Lord 3

6-4 Rent, 7-4 Double-O-Seven, 7-2 Cooking, 10-1 Allebra Concer, 20-1 Northwei Mincle.

3.40 LLOYD GEDRAGE HANDICAP (£3,709: 71) (6)

Carvill's Hill is to resume his career in hunter chases, for which he has recently been qualified. The Grand National weights are to be announced in London a week on Tuesday.

The Ascot racecourse executive has guaranteed that the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes on July 27 will be worth a minimum of £500,000. The 12furlang contest, which follows the Derby as Britain's second most valuable prize, will be sponsored for the 25th consecutive year by De Beers.

WINCANTON

3.00 Sunley Bay

GUIDE TO DUR IN LINE RACECARD

GOING. GOOD TO SOFT (CHASE COURSE); SOFT (HURDLES) 1.30 ELITE RACING CLUB JUVENILE NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE (\$2,355: 2m) (11 nunners)

1985: AMNT A MELLION 4-11-2 D Gallagher (5-1) M Sinestand 9 RT

AL COMMENT IN the second chart of Zee of V0 in Least in Collection of the Scottish Week second local Collection (2) before oil should be 200 in Least in Collection (2) before oil should be 200 in Least in Collection (2) before oil should be second in Least in Collection (2) before oil so the Manusco for Least in Collection (2) before oil so Least in Least in Collection (2) before oil so Least in Least in Collection (2) before oil so Least in Least i

2.00 MAURICE LISTER MAIDEN CHASE

(£3,912: 3m 1(110yd) (16 runners)

BETTING: 7-2 Luis Rumble, 4-1 My Main Mint, 9-2 Phoris Hill, 6-1 Samine, 8-1 Dole Ol Lancad Kingsmill Cusy, Braghu: Designer, 20-1 others. 1995: ESECOLIBLEYOU 7-11-5 R Syrome (4-1) Mrs J Rentros-Serons 19 det

FORM FOCUS

BORD HILL about 27/41 Sin of 14 to Harv A
Nightop in novice chase at Ludice (2m, good) or
produce an DUSC OF LUMBASTER 28 36
11 in Frainc Consequence and makes the sea at
11 in Frainc Consequence and makes the sea at
Notingham (2m 110yd, good). LETS ROMBSE 2
2nd of 14 to Libu Val in novice chase at Wadden (2m 61, good to soft) TEARRIL
PRINCE dollar of 12 to Carbon Angle in heroform
Comm good) or peruthrusia seats MY MAN MAN
not find the product of the carbon Angle in heroform
Comm good) or peruthrusia seats MY MAN MAN
not find the carbon and the carbon and the carbon Angle in heroform
Comm good or peruthrusia seats MY MAN MAN
not find the carbon and the carb

2.30 TOTE BETTING SHOP HANDICAP HURDLE

BETTINKE 8-4 Tainein, 4-1 Stainlack, 5-1 Microtock, 7-1 Arrances, 8-1 Keep Me in Mind, Politicus, 10-1 Toon July, Till 4 primer.

1995: THE CAUMPLE 7-10-12 A P McCoy (5-1) & Balding 11 can

FORM FOCUS

AMANCED by dight this term 1941 Sh of 10 to 10 t

3.00 PAT RUTHVEN AND GUY NIXON MEMORIAL VASE (Handicap chase: amateurs: £3,730: 3m 11 110yd) (13 runners)

Long handicap. Carciero 9-12. Biska's Wonder 9-2

BETTRIE: 3-1 Suriey Day, 7-2 Rentory Sertim, 9-2 Scivenino, 6-1 Fell Df Fire, 12-1 Givus A Buck, Some Day Soon, Good Insight, 14-1 others 1905. SUNLEY BAY 9-10-13 Miss P Centing (11-4 fey) P Nicholis 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

SUPLEY MAY 0 3rd of 11 to Research Computer in an appropriate to the support of t

264 4th and GRVLS A BUCK (10th better off) puffed up 3 out.

EVILS A BUCK A BUCK (10th better off) puffed up 3 out.

EVILS A BUCK A BUCK (10th better off) puffed up 3 out.

EVILS A BUCK A BUCK A BUCK (2 th of 5 to 8 isosops than in the state of 5

3.30 tenence brady a charlotte bingham chase (Limited handicap: £6,710: 2m) (4 numbers)

1-11111 EASTHORPE 19 (D.F.G.S) (M. Broughton) Miks. H. Knight. 8-11-7 ... J. F. Tüley (M. 1360-25 BARNA BOY 6 (G.S.) (L. Wilson) N. Henderson 8-11-4 ... M. A. Reguerald. 95 36-1131 (M. OKRITHEN) ASOLICE 13 (D.F.G.S.) (R. FERRAT R. Hogges 9-10-12 T. Descombe (S. 87 22211-3 MISTER ODDY 13 (D.G.S.) (Mes. R. Hall) J. Wing 10-10-7... Mr. J. Caulinty (7) 91 Long handicare Mister Diddy 10-1.

BETTING: Evene Easthorpe, 5-2 Northern Saddler, 11-4 Barna Boy, 6-1 Misler Oddy 1995; MEDINAS SWAN SONG 7-10-7 A Tory (3-1) R Hodges & ran

FORM FOCUS

EASTHORPE companies where our Storm Alans 14 in handicap chose of Sandoum (2m, good to wrome off) short-head 3rd. MiSTER (DDDY beat many in Moha BCY 2 and of 5 or MISTER 1984 Des D 30 or amalsou riders handicap chase at Wordester (2m, soil) on peradismate start, with NORTH-ERW SADDLER (4th handicap chase at Selection ERSTMONTE.

4.00 POTTERS HANDICAP HURDLE

478: 2m 61) (17 runners)

BLAGE LIBERDOWN 64 (LL5) (8 Denmand) P Nichalls B-12-0... M Grittohis (7) (2)

\$3-025 ROYAL PIPER 6 (CD.5) (A Corlington) A J Wilson 9-11-11 ... A Tony 86

P22-1RJ SLVER STANDLING 54 (D.G.S) (6: Lang) T Froster 6-11-9... 6 McCourt 86

S2/P3P1- ACE PLAYER 241 (8) (8 Michaelson) D Chappell B-11-2 ... R Greans 86

S2/P3P1- ACE PLAYER 241 (8) (8 Michaelson) D Chappell B-11-2 ... A P McCourt 86

S2/P3P1- ACE PLAYER 241 (8) (8 Michaelson) D Chappell B-11-2 ... A P McCourt 86

S2/P3P1- ACE PLAYER 241 (8) (8 Michaelson) D Chappell B-11-2 ... A P McCourt 86

S2/P3P1- ACE PLAYER 241 (8) (8 Michaelson) D Chappell B-11-2 ... A P McCourt 86

S2/P3P1- ACE PLAYER 241 (8) (8 Michaelson) D Chappell B-11-2 ... A P McCourt 80

S2/P3P1- S SIKAAB 7 (C.P) (B Brad) S Hystil 11-10-10 ... MA Fitoperal 80

S3-3445 YOURNE TESS 22 (6 Taylor) N Bablage 8-10-3 ... W McCarland B3

PULSA- THANKS A MALLON 514 (7) (8 Short In Thomson 10-10-2 ... R Davis 8-10-2 ... S Darmond B3

PULSA- THANKS A MALLON 514 (7) (8 Short In Thomson 10-10-2 ... R Davis 8-13-2-2 ... S Barmond B3

S-05-632 PERSISTENT GLAWER B (C.S) (P State) R Hodges 6-10-0 ... S Barmond 63

S-05-632 PERSISTENT GLAWER B (C.S) (P State) R Hodges 6-10-0 ... B Person (S) - SPSED- COEUR BATTANT 245 (F) (B Jones) R Batte 6-10-0 ... B Person (S) - SPSED- COEUR BATTANT 245 (F) (B Jones) R Batt 6-10-0 ... B Person (S) handleage Davis 9-13, Persistent Gunner 9-12, May6eld Part 9-12, BBN) Batter 9-10

Long hendicage: Donlor 9-13, Persistent Guoner 9-12, Mayfield Park 9-12, Billy Barter 9-10
BETTINGS 5-1 Carring Dancer, 7-1 Landslaw Phydie, 8-1 Featrol Romac, Mr Playfulf, 10-1 Azz Playes, Royal Paper
Francisco Guoner, 17-1 stress 1995: ROYAL PIPER 8-10-11 A Tory (16-1) Mrs J Rentree-Barons 18 rap FORM FOCUS

UNESCURSE has about that term about 181 had at 5 to Great Marquess in handlesp hurdin at Newbury (am 110yd, good) ROYAL PPER head and of 9 to rour Leader in handlesp hurdin of 8 to rour Leader in handlesp hurdin (3m 110yd, good) at one handlesp handle at Santon (3m 110yd, good) at one handlesp handlesp handlesp handlesp hurdin or make handlesp handlesp handlesp hurdin in madein hurder in ROYAL PPER (4th hand of 12% 17% and 12% 17% and

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS JOOKEYS fins. Mics. J. Prinspir III Prinspir Mics. 14 Autopat III Albany D. Richardson E. Simmanus J Lower T Ouscombs G McCourt W McFartand N Fatori B CMbrs 75 136 26 54 34 35

12.50 OFFORD NATIONAL HUNT MOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £2,740: 2m 110yd) (17 runners) 11-4 Menetare 4-1 Tha, 5-1 My Chesty Man, 6-1 Pooled Person, 6-1 The Pulsain, Good Co., Wilde Masic, 12-1 others. 1.20 OFFORD NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (Div H: \$2.723: 2m 110yd) (17)
201 P125 WREN WARRER 20 (0.5) Mrs P Roberon 6-11-7 M Richards PARCENER RANGER S9 Mrs 5 Wilson 5-11-6 Gary Lyons - FRED JEFFREY A Tumel 5-11-6 S Inches 203 FRED JEFFREY A Tumel 5-11-6 R Johnson (3) - 2.51 SPACCEED 179 (6) N Corne 6-11-6 R Johnson (3) - 2.51 SPACCEED 179 (7) N Corne 6-11-6 R Johnson (3) - 2.51 SPACCEED 179 (6) N Corne 6-11-6 R Johnson (3) - 2.51 SPACCEED 179 (7) N CORNER R SENDING 6-11-5 D Months - 2.51 SPACKEED 189 (11-5) P Cartery - 2.51 SPACKEED 189 (20) N CORNER R SENDING 6-11-5 D CORNER R SENDING 6-11-5 S COTOMORIO (7) SPACKEED 189 (20) SPACKEED 189 7-2 Essection 4-1 Macro Master, 5-1 General Jacket, 6-1 Food Jeffrey, 8-1 Warm Warster Goldwyn 10-1 others. 1.50 CLAUDE BANKS 78TH BIRTHDAY NOVICES CHASE (£3,223 2m 110yd) (8) 5-4 Septer Corn, 7-2 Ferrie, 9-2 Houseles Sain, 8-1 Batter Santo, 10-1 Anather House, 14-1 Charperter, 25-1 others 2.20 YELLING HOVICES RANDICAP HURBLE (\$2,992 2m 110yd) (15)

300 3767 NUPLEHWARD 17 22 37 N CREEKE 17-12-13 3 SAMELINE 15 15 14 14 PALLA COLUMN 12 (5) Alex 1, Williamsen 8-10-30 ... M Microson 8-10-GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES)

3-1 the Subbate, 11-4 Act The Way, 3-1 Hebridson, 7-1 De Rightly, 12-1 De Be Hare, Sarige Washin, 25-1 others. 3.20 SAPLEY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,373: 2m 5(110yd) (16) 9-2 Cambo, 5-1 Fly By North, 6-1 Johns The Boy, 7-1 Can Can Charlin, 8-1 Pelbugh, Aleston Holt, 18-1 During Bridge, 12-1 phone. 3.50 MARCH HARDICAP CHARE (£4,057: 2m 110yd) (7)

2.4. SLIPE INTELL (1) GUESS D McCain 13-12-0 D McCain 1 GUESS D McCain 13-12-0 M M Owyer 1 GUESS D MCCain 13-13-0 D McCain 1 GUESS D MCCAIN 1 $4.20~\mu \text{diffingDon madden open national hunt flat race ($2,068; 2m 110yd) (22)$ 9-4 Brandery May, 5-1 Governor Dawel, 6-1 Played Russon, 8-1 Str Date, Targette Man, 10-1 Festers, Computered Lady, 12-1 offers; **COURSE SPECIALISTS** som 35, 41.2°s.

JDCKEYS: P Hole, 12 tempers hore 40 fales, 25.0%, A Thomas, 5 hore 20, 25.0%; W Marston, 9 from 40, 22.5%, D Gallagher, 7 from 37, 18.9%, J Lodder, 5 from 27, 18.9%; J Rankon, 7 from 59, 17.9%; J Rankon, 7 from 55, 15.6%.

RACELINE FULL RESULTS SERVICE 0891-168-168 0891 168+ W'CANTON | 01 | 201 | 301 | P HUNT DON | 102 | 202 | 302 | LINGPIELD | 103 | 203 | 303 | P LINGPIELD | 103 | 203 | 303 | P has been off the course since over six fences."

9-2 Engs Colo, 5-1 December Ping, Mill CThe Rays, 7-1 Whose Wonder, 8-1 Beltschiere Bind, 10-1 part Wellington, Jack Leader, 12-1 piless.

Jodami in shape for Ireland

JODAMI is in excellent shape for his attempt to land the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup for the fourth year in a row. winning at Kelso in November. A planned return at Wetherby had to be scrapped because of a throat problem. on Sunday week.

Peter Beaumont, his trainer, confirmed that the gelding is ready to run at Leopardstown

But Beaumont said yesterday: "Jodami is in good order and he's over all his problems. He worked this morning with The 1993 Gold Cup winner Mark Dwyer and schooled

Trustec 1/2-49 400 bid.
2.50 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Handborne
Glen (B Feston, 5-1): 2, Arctic Ula (9-2).
3, Fleur De Tal (15-2) Brownsde Brig 4-1
law (pul). 12 ran. 2, 91 Mrs M Long, Tota:
57.30; (2-20, 2-320, 2-220, DF 215.80
Trig: 267.20 CSF: £28.55. Trigant:
Chili 10. Ch61:10.

3.20 (2m ch) 1, Early Drinker (J A McCarlly, 6-4 law), 2, Drumculler (14-1).

3, Predous Wonder (40-1) 16 ran 12.

30. 0 Shawcoot. Tote. £2.30. £1.20.

27.40, £19.50. DF, £33.00 Tho £264.30 (partwon, pool of £264.31 camied lowerd to 3.20 at Huntingdon today). CSF 22 III.

3.50 (3m 11 110yd hdie) 1. Harwat View (G Bradley, 13-2); 2. Indian Summit (9-2), 3. What's The Join (10-1) Dark Nightingule 11-4 law (pu) 11 sp. NR; Ply in Amber Na, 10. C Books. Toler \$10.50, 53 20, \$1.10. \$2.90. DF \$29.90 Tric: \$72.10. CSF \$35.46. Tricest \$271.17 4.20 (3m 5/1ch) 1, Meestre Paul (Nr P O'Keetle, 20-1); 2. Rhoman Fun (25-1); 3. Opel's Tenspot (16-1); 4. Cool Character (12-1). Lo Chai Nov 4-1 play (f) 16 ran NR; Tricksome, Nir, 15/1 J Gillord, Toter

4-1 Hoyal Circus, 9-2 Hiti Form Dancer, 6-1 Canalits Mint, 7-1 Good So Fe, 8-1 Entires Fastery, See You Again, 10-1 Seasons, 12-1 others 2.10 GLADITONE CLAIMING STAKES (E3,118: 1m) (8) 4.10 WILSON HANDICAP (£2,977; 1m 2f) (13) ### 1990 CAMARY FALCON 10 (E) alone berry 5-10-0. V Smith 4
12-8 AMVESOINE POWER 21 (CD,5) J Hills 10-9-11 ... A Clark 9
250-0 LUTBANTE WARRING 13 (CD,5) C Cyans 6-9-19 ... J Whatwer 6
0-00 LUMDRA 14 S Dow 4-9-0 ... R Cockram 6
01-3 TOTAL RACK! 21 (S,CD,F.G) R Impatts 4-0-7 ... T Analogy (7) 12
00-0 CLAUGE 20 D Clargram 4-9-4 ... A Collising 7
DIV MINICESS PARRIET STATUM Hamilton 5-9-13 11-2 BH MENTSMIND 7 (CD.F.S) G.L. Mester 6-9-5 A Listentian (7) 6
22-0 ESCHILL FOLDING 15 (CD.F.S) bits M Newsy 6-9-3 J Franke B
1-13 SPENISTS REVISION 10 CD.B.F.S, M Span 7-4-13 G Decreated 5
00-3 FRESH PROF DAM 2 12 F Relieved 4-8-12... R Cockerate 1
00-3 HESH PROF DAM 2 12 F Relieved 4-8-12... R Cockerate 1
00-3 HISH PROF TO SPAN 15 IN TURBE 4-8-4 ... A Cocker 2
100-3 HISH PROF 14 (B.C.S) J Study 6-8-4 ... M Baird (S) 7
0-6 OFF THE ART 6 (V.M.S.) B Lowelly 6-9-0 ... B Cocker 2 COURSE SPECIALISTS 7-2 Ludy Sabko, 9-2 Total Back, 5-1 Amesicane Power, 5-1 Lucky Today, 8-1 Real Modeld, Intimate Wigner, 18-1 Zuno Piyer, 12-1 others Blinkered first time LINGFELD PARK 1.40 Donis, Good So Fis WINCANTON: 1 00 Huleh Cross, Zingibar. 4.00 Billy Barter. STARSULED HOW ISTERNAL STARES MEDINGS E28 80; £7.10, £3.70, £4.00, £2.90, DF: £169.50, Thio not won good of £342.74 carted forward to 3.20 of Huntingdon today), £55; £410.74, Tricast: £7,181.97 Jackpot: £97,215.10. Placepot: £97,215.10. Quandpot: £98.90. 200 (8) 1. Farmost (C Nutier, 4-7 lav); 2. Durmier Golf Time (3-1); 3. Coasiguards. Hero (50-1): 13 ran 'e-1, 63. M Prescott. Tota (2-1 a); 51.10, 653.20 °OF. 52.30. Tito: £103.30 (part won, pool of 57.28 carried browser to 3.20 at Hunting-don today). CSF: 53.37. Sedgefield Going: good to lim, good in please 2.30 (7) 1. Rembo Weltzer (Alex Greaves, 5-1); 2. Berge (5-4 lav); 3. Everset (3-1); 11 ren. Nic, 184. D. Nichols. Tota: \$10.50; 64.10, 61.10, 61.90. DF: 28.30 Trio: 28.80. CSF: \$13.55. CSF: 26 74.
2.20 (2m 6t 110yd hafls) 1, Morth
Burnister (A P McCoy, 8-1); 2, Damosda
(4-1 tav); 3, Its Grand (5-1); 4, Celtic Lilley
(33-1), 17 mn. Nt, 12. T McGovern. Total
513.70; 25-50; 27 70; 51.40, 510.80 DF:
271.70 Trice: £133.30. CSF. £43.50.
Thicast £172.49 No bid.

Going: good to live, good in pieces

1.10 (2m 11 110yd helie) 1, Baihernoch (L. Wyer, 2-1); 2, Weish Mill (8-1) 1 lav); 3, Genesal Jimbo (25-1), 13 ran. NR: Highland Wey, Mi. 13. M H Easterby, Tolie: 53-50; 51-10, 51-30, 518-70 DF-17 70 Trio. 518-70. CSF 94-24.

1.40 (2m 11 110yd helie) 1, Orchidamma (M Dwyer, 9-1); 2, Wild Rose Of York (5-1); 3, Windep Taibinger (5-2 lav); 4, Thorness Rend (7-1), 17 san NR: Aume Lorne, 31, 71 J Oulem. Tota, 51-50; 52-240, 51-80, 51-70; 180 DF-537-90. Thor 231-50. CSF: BIO.44. Trauser (7-45-32.

2.10 (2m 11 110yd helie) 1, General's Oxfors (W Fry, 7-2); 2, Sunderland Echo (8-13 lav); 3, Roy Boy (20-1), 14 ann 194.

nt. J Norion. Tota (56-30; 51-40, 51-10, 54-70) DF-53-50. This, 1945-50. CSF (5-58).

2.40 (2m 3f ch) 1, Call The Shots (6 CSF 213.55.
3.00 (1m 11 79/cl) 1, Fleid Of Vision (J. Wesver, 8-1), 2, Maple Bay (5-2 law), 3, Kintoyn (6-2), 12 can NR: Desert Power Hd, 2kl, M Johnston, Toter 210 70; 23.20, 21 80, 23.30 DF: 238.90, Tric: 231 30 CSF, 231 50, Trics 21 50. U.S.*. E31 50. Infoest. E102.84
3.30. (Im 100yd) 1. Chima Casde (J. Fortune, 9-4, Thunderse's map): 2. Theater Magic (7-1): 3. Lady Digray (10-1) Dombor 7-4 fav 9 ran. 151, 151. P. Hasiam Tote: 52.80; 51.40, 53.20, 53.50 DF: 518.00 Trio: 524.60 CSF: 520.03 Ricest £100.07. Hisser £120.07.
4.00 (1m 81 169yd) 1, Stevie's Wonder (G Berdviel, Evens Earl; 2, Fraise Du Roi (8-1); 3, E Mido (7-2) 11 ran MP: Castle Scoret Hd, 201 M Ryen: Tote 52.10, 51.20, 52.20, 51.90 DF 512.70. Tho £4.80, CSF £11 78 No bid
4.30 (50) 1, Chackwell Hall (C Teague, 5-1), 2, King Rambo (10-1); 3, Featherstone Lane (8-1) Southern Dominion 7-2 fav 11 ran. 2(14); 5 Bowning Tote: £8.40, £2.10, £5.40, £2.20. DF £54.40, Tilo £73.00. CSF £58.08. Tribasi £384.36. Placepoot £18.50. Quadpot £14.10. 24.00 pr : 23.50 fror 596.30. Car Co.30. 2.40 gan al chi 1, Cali The Shots (K. Jones, 15-8 lovi; 2, Go Sily (7-2); 3, Fisch's Gera (3-1), 13 ran 2, 301 J Wade Tole: £2.60; £1.40, £1.20, £1.50, DF: £4.70 Tric: £2.70 CSF: £10.08 Inde: 12.80, ST.40, ST.20, ST.30, DF: SA70 Thre: 52.70 SSF: E10.08
3.10 (2m 11 ch) 1. Thesidder (R Garrity, 7-1): 2. Decreed HAI (8-1): 3. Rannosbil (12-1): Brier's Delight 4-1; J.Re. 12 em. 8, 41. M. W. Essterby Toler 59.00: S3.00. S3.00, S2.00, E2.00, DF: S4.10.0. Tim. 5746.10. CSF: D83.01 Tricast, E855.48.
3.40 (2m 31 110yd helie) 1, New Charges (B Grassin, 6-1): 2, Golden Nugget (4-1; J.Re.); 3. High Perhiture (4-1; J.Re.). 10 ran. 13, G. P. Besumont, Toler 57.60; E2.70, S2.40, S1.60. DF: E16.10. Titor 512.20. CSF: S3.99 Titosst, E101.75
4.10 (2m 11 110yd helie) 1, Meadorubum (T Reed, 5-1): 2. Derry's Desgrit (12-1); 3. Miss Lampinght (10-1). Gallents Desgrit Evens law 17 ran. NR. Decom Perny 394, 13-1 W. Reed, Toler 53.00; S1.40, \$2.30. DF: S9.90. Thos: S53.10 (part won: pool of S3.74) carried forward to 3.20 at Hurengdon todayl, CSF: 589.99
Placepot: 225.10. Quadqot: \$19.60. Placepot: £18.50. Quadpot: £14.10.

☐ Addington Boy, trained by Gordon Richards, was weil supported to 6-1 (from 8-1) with Ladbrokes yesterday for the Great Yorkshire Chase at Doncaster on Saturday. Turning Trix remains the 100-30

Real runners deserve chance of lottery gold

inspiration of the gold medal hopeful these days is more likely to be Scratcheards of Fire. "We are going for gold." declared the National Heritage Secretary. Virginia Bottomley, this week. We want to help the stars of the future." She was announcing that National Lottery grants worth thousands of pounds could be given to help competitors to train, coach and compete in all sports - from the youngster of promise to the champion in the

Olympics. There is no It is a fine idea, for though sport has benebetter fited by more than £170 million in the first year example of an of the lottery, the grants have been spent unsung sport' on building or improv-

ing facilities. Now grants can be paid directly to individuals to help them to fulfil their notential. But the real test for the fairy godmothers who hand out the lotters gold (in this case the sports councils) will be to make sure it goes to the deserving Cinderellas and not the Ugly Sisters already bloated with sponsorship and appearance money.

Real deserving cases should not be hard to find, for they are the true heirs of the now seemingly timewarped amateur ethos that so prececupied the founding fathers of much

the PGA European Tour could

open its proceedings this year, a tropical island near the

Equator where inflation is

running at 1.5 per cent annual-

ly is about the oddest. Singa-

pore, 6.500 miles from

London, is not the first place

that comes to mind when one

Golf, however, is a business and as Johanie Walker pumps

Eli million annually into golf.

making it the biggest sponsor

in Europe and probably the

world, it is appropriate that

one of its tournaments starts

the year - at the Tanah

Merah Country Club here this

morning. Greg Norman, Fred Cou-

ples, the defending champion.

and Ernie Els have all been

lured to this island that is

smaller in size than Greater

London — and it has taken

more than a couple of bottles

of Black Label to do that, you

can be sure. No sooner had

Norman arrived than he went

down with a chest infection

It is fun being a golf supporter these days. The four

annual major championships

remain compelling watching.

each offering an individual

challenge for the professionals

as they have done every year

and was said to be an extreme-

ly doubtful starter.

thinks of Europe.

of British sport. In what was really a class division, sport was carved up a century and more ago into gentlemen and players. These days, the heirs to the lofty idealism of the amateur tradition are left to get by as best they

Mostly that means relying on the biggest army of hidden sponsors in the land - their families - who often provide money, equipment, transport and sometimes even coaching up to international level.

> There is no better example of an unsung. under-resourced and literally grassroots sport than cross-country running. This Saturday afternoon. thousands of real runners (not your lycraclad poseurs who marathon only for the

cameras) will flog their way through mud, grass, woods and ditches in eross-country's area championships. The cross-country season has been

a ficreely competitive feature of Entish athletics for more than a century and traditionally helps to account for our strength in depth at distance running. The list of British record-holders and medal-winners who have shivered their winters running on grim cross-country courses is legendary. Walter George. Sydney Wooderson, Gordon Pirie.

Business trip east

marks start of

European venture

since the US PGA became a

legitimate major champion-

ship 40 years ago. They have

not been devalued by the rise

of extravaganzas with huge financial purses at either end

of the season. The Masters in



Ron Hill, Brendan Foster, Dave Bedford - even Cram. Coe and Ovett - all knew that you could reap success in the summer only if you had put in the hard work in the

This tough sport evolved in the early years of the 19th century when it was known in the public schools as "hare and hounds" — a paperchase, with the human hares laying a trail of paper for the runners behind to follow. The father of cross-country running at club level was Walter Ryc. a hardliner, even among his fellow Victorians on the subject of gentlemen amateurs - he saw no place for working men or gambling in his sport. He organised a run in 1867 which led to the founding of the world's first club, the Thames Hare and Hounds, and the new sport took

The climax of this season will take place on March 23 at the world crosscountry championships in Cape Town, and despite a lamentable lack of resources there is a real chance that the British teams can get among the medals. Since Dave Clarke, one of the finest cross-country runners produced by Britain, took over as men's team manager a little more than a year ago, the British squad has found the spirit to take on the world. Clarke has confidence and enthusiasm.

What he and his squad

do not have is money. "Big sums aren't necessarily going to make our athletes run any better," he says, "but a little would go a very long way and buy a lot recognition and goodwill. What we really need funding for

is a British endurance squad — to get the most out of our great distance running tradition."

Clarke is trying to match his team against the best in the world with little more than a token budget. He has the problem of asking some of his best prospects to pass up paid appearances in favour of running for their country virtually at their own expense. "We're asking some athletes, particularly the young ones, to run for Britain with an overdraft hanging round their necks," he says.

THE EUROPEAN CARD

Catalan Open, Tarragona Moroccan Open, Agadir Dubai Desert Classic

Portuguese Open, Lisbon Madeira Island Open

Italian Open, Milan

Cannes Open, Mougins
Turespane Mout

Peugeot Spanish Open, Valencia

Deutsche Bank Open, Hamburg

English Open, Forest of Arden Jersey Open, La Moye BMW International Open, Munich

Peugeot French Open, Paris Murphy's Irish Open, Dublin Scottish Open, Camoustie

Dutch Open, Häversum

Volvo PGA Championship, Wentworth

Volvo Scandinavien Masters, Gothenburg

Smurfit Europeen Open, The K Club, Dublin Linde German Masters, Berfin

British Masters, Collingtree Park
Canon European Masters, Crans-sur-Sterre, Switzerland
Lancôme Trophy, St-Norn-le-Brèteche, Paris
Loch Lornond world invitational, Loch Lornond

Hohe Brucke Open, Litschau, Austria Czech Open, Marianske Lazne

Volvo German Open, Stuttgart

Volvo Masters, Valderrame

Johnnie Walker Classic, Singapore Heineken Classic, The Vines, Perth

Dimension Data Pro-Am. Sun City

FNB Players Championship, Durban

Alfred Dunhill South Africa PGA Championship, Johannesburg

Benson and Hedges International Open, The Oxfordshire, Thems

TOUR EVENTS

Jen 25-28;

Feb 15-18:

Feb 22-25: Feb 29-Mar 3;

Mar 7-10:

Mar 14-17:

Mar 21-24:

Apr 18-21: Apr 25-28:

May 2-5

May 9-12:

June 6-9:

June 13-16:

June 20-23:

June 27-30:

July 10-13:

July 25-28:

Aug 8-11: Aug 15-18::

Aug 22-25:

Sept 19-22:

Sept 26-29:

Oct 3-6;

Sept 5-8: Sept 12-15:

Aug 1-4;

July 4-7:

May 16-19:

May 30-June 2:

Feb 1-4:

"We can beat plenty in Cape Town, including the top European teams, if we can get our best runners to turn out there. We have men like Paul Evans and Rob Denmark - and we need them. If our distance runners can get a taste of success in South Africa, we can follow it with success in the summer at the Olympics. If the public want to see our distance men and women winning medals on the track, they must realise that the runners need some encouragement to do the groundwork

The British changes in the Natsquad has the spirit to take on the world'

residents of the second second

ional Lottery awards, some badly-needed support could be chan-nelled into this Cinderella sport. What Walter Rye would have made of such grants we can only guess. In 1876, the press was full of rumours

through the British

Thanks to the

that Rye was about to resign because there had been some gambling over cards in the dressing-room of the Thames Hare and Hounds. The row passed and he did not quit after all, so perhaps a century and more later he would have smiled at

lottery money coming to the aid of his beloved paper-chasing. But I wouldn't bet on it.

FOR 1996

JOHN BRYANT

Murder train back on rails

Cinema 100: Strangers on a Train. Radio 4, 2.00pm.

Too many literary cooks threatened to spoil Hitchcock's broth in 1951. In the event, the flavour of Strangers on a Train was to almost everybody's taste. Hitchcock himself contributed to the screenplay, though the credits named only Whitfield Cook as adapter of Patricia Highsmith's thriller, and the great Raymond Chandler and Czenzi Ormonde as screenwriters. Like his Hollywood predecessors, Craig Warner has used this tale of a double murder plot as his inspiration but nobody who knows anything about Warner's remarkable inventive powers as a radio dramatist will expect his adaptation of Strangers on a Train to be slavishly faithful to Highsmith.

The American Wife. Radio 4, 11.00pm.

Except for the odd flashback, Richard Nelson's short play all takes place on Thanksgiving Day. The irony is that the eponymous spouse (Zoe Wanamaker) has precious little to thank anybody for. An American in London, married to an Englishman (Anton Lesser), she American in London, married to an enginetrian reduction beastly site hates England, its people, and their obsessions, especially their gardens and their holiday plans. She despises the husband who she is convinced is having an adulterous fling; and she is scared that her well-advanced pregnancy is going to end badly. All this comes out in her unspoken thoughts as she detachedly serves a Thanksgiving Day dinner. Nelson has written a subtle, twin-track play. Why twin-track? On this, my lips are scaled.

RADIO 1

Fill Stereo 4,00am Clivs Warren 6,30 Chris Evens9,00 Simon Mayo12,00 Usa 1 Anson, incl at 12,30-12,45pm Newsbeat and at 1,15 The Net 2,00 Nicky Campbell 4,00 Mark Goodler, mcl 5,30-5,45 Newsbeat, 6,15 the Net 7,00 Evening Session 9,00 Collins and Macome's Hit Paradie 10,00 Mark 2art title Mistaland 10,and Mark 2art title Mistaland 10,300 Mark 2art title Mistaland 10,300 Mark Radcittle Midnight Claire Sturgess, incl 12.15cm The Net

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 5.00em Sarsh Kennedy 6,15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce, not at 10.00 Pick at the Hits 11,30 Jammy Young 2.00pm Debbee Thrower 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Durn 7.00 For Better of for Worse 7.30 David Alam 9.00 Paul Jones 10.00 Latino Nuevo10.30 The Jamesons 12.05ems Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lesting

RADIO & LIVE

5,05am Moming Reports 6,00 The Breaklast Programme 8,35 The Maga-zine, not 10,35 Euronews 11,30 Gut Reachon 12,00 Midday with Mair, not 12,34pm Moneycheck with Kattle Derham 1,15 Entertainment News 2,05 Derham 1.15 Emterfammen News 2.05
Ruscoe on Five, incl. at 3.15 Prime
Meridian's Question Time 3.45 Enfantairment News 4.90 John Investible Nationwide7.00 News Extra 7.35 Cricket's
World Cup8.05 Women on Top 8.05
SportsAmerica 10.05 News Talls 11.00
Night Extra 12.08era Night Moves 2.05
Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6,00em Sandy Wart 7.00 Simon Betse 10,00 Jonathan king 12,00 Tommy Soyd 2.00pm Anns Raebum 4.00 Scott Chisholm and Lowri Tumer 7.00 Seen Bolger 9.00 Moz Dee 10.00 James Whate 1.00-6.00em tan Colorus

All times in GMT. 5.00am Newsday 5.30 Europe 6.00 News 6.30 Europe 7.00 News 7.15 Frenchman's Creek 7.30 Network UK 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Composer 8.45 Good Books 9.00 News in German 9.15 Sport9.45 Sports 10.00 Newsday 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Frenchman's Creek 11.00 Newsday 12.00 Newsday 12.00 Newsday 12.00 Newsday 12.00 Newsday 12.00 Newsday 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Assignment 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitack 3.00 News in German 3.15 Learning World 3.30 Network UK 4.00 News 4.15 World Today 4.30 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 Business Report 5.45 Sport6.00 Newsdayk 6.30 News in Cerman 7.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 World 5 Faith Newsdesk 6.30 News in Carman 7.90 News 7.91 Outlook 7.25 Words of Fath 7.30 John Peel 8.00 Newshut 9.00 News 9.05 Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Mandian 10.00 Newslash 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.10 Take Five 11.15 Network UK 11.45 Health Matters Midnight Newslash 12.30 mich flow Move 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 Surviving the 20th Century 1.45 Global Concerns 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Drame The Vacilitations of Poppy Caraw 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Failh 4.00 Newsdask 4.30 Europe Today

WORLD SERVICE

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Gnifiths 6.00 Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Ketly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 9.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Newshight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 Travel 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Mel Conper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Home 7.30 Paul Coyle 10.00 Mari. Forrest 2.00-6.00em Robin Bank:

RADIO 3

N.00am On Air Brahms (Symphony No 1 er C minor), Corelli (Concerto Grosso In F): Bach (English Sulte No 3 in G minor); Meckenzle (incidental music, Conolanus); 8.05 J P. Jones (Al son de los arroyuelos, Amores pasados), Elgar (Sea

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaceini, Scarlatti (Sonatas in D: Trevor Pinnock, harosichord): Mozart (Oboe Concerto in C); Smetana (String Quartet No 1, From My Life)

District Encounties.

Brahms, orch Dvoták
(Hungarian Dances, No 21 in
E minor, No 19 in B minor);
Clara Schumann (Ptano Trio
in G minor), Mahler (Vetorine
Müh; Rheinlegendchen; Der
Tamboursg sell, Des Knaben
Wunderhom); 10.80 Morton
Gould (Derlyadions), 11.05
Gorecki (Totus huss);
Schumann, ed Mahler Schumann, ed Mahle

(Symphony No 3 in E flat, Rhensh) 12.00 Composer of the Week 12.00 Composer of the Week
Prokofiev (Pine Trees; Without
a Blush, Pushun Songs;
Camtata, Alexander Nevsky)
1.00pm City of London Sintonia
under Barry Tuckwell Holst
(Brook Green Suite); Goehr
(Fugue on the Notes of the
Fourth Psalm), Britien
(Severadie for Jenor, horn and
strings) (r)

strings) (f)
2.00 Schools Radio Showcase
2.05 in the News 2.25
Something to Think About
2.40 Music Workshop
3.00 The Road to Toledo. The journey of Philip the Fair from Brussels to Toledo (2/4)

3.30 Ulster Orchestra performa Hindemath (Symphonic

Metamorphosis of Themes by Carl Maria von Weber), Nielsen (Clarinel Concerto Devid Campbell), Holst (A Somerest Rhapsody), Vaughan Williams (Symphony No. 3) No 4) 5.00 The Music Machine; Rondo

performances from the BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Martyn Brabbins and the planist Kathryn Stoff 7.39 BBC Philliumnonic under Yan Pascal Torteller, Pete Maxwell Davies Ravel (Rapsodie espagnole): Maxwell Davies (Symphony No 5; Cross Lane Fair) ethoven (Symphony No.)

9.10 The Maxton Festival. Hugh Walters presents another report from Maxton Market

9.30 Fauré and the French Connection Fathym Slott
peans, in a rectal broadcast
last year to main the 150th
antiversary of Fauré's brith in
10.45 Night Waves includes
reviews of the William Morris exhibition at the Whitworth Gallery in Manchester, and Opera North in Alan Jay

Lemer's musical, Love Life

11.30-12.30em The BBC
Orchestras: Geoffley
Baskerville introduces the
BBC Scottish Symphony
Orchestra under Martyn
Brabbins, Works by Ravel,
Lyell Cresswell and Glazunov

1.00-2.00 Night School Together
Stories 1.30 Music for Dance

Millions of stars remain unnamed. Many rich and famous have named stars Now you can name a star for only £39.95!

- Have your star name in the constellation of your choice.
- Your star name will be registered and copyrighted.

- Constellation chart showing star location.
- Certificate (inscribed by hand).
- Information booklet & constellation guide.
- Registration and copyright.

Celebrate a special occasion



- Call NOW and receive by Valentines Day

- Mother's Day Birthday Anniversary

⊕ Engagement • Wedding • New born

For full details call NOW Please send no money l: 0181 371 5060 UNIVERSAL STAR LISTING 239 REGENTS PARK ROAD LONDON N3 3LF

just the golfing — event of last year. The teeming rain did nothing to diminish the excite-April, the US Open in June, ment of Great Britain and Ireland's victory in the Walker the Open a month later and the US PGA in August are as Cup the same month. That much the central features of meant that these two trophies the golfing year as spring. joined the Curtis Cup on this summer, autumn and winter side of the Atlantic. There is a pleasing symme-try to the golfing calendar at are of the calendar year. present, one that is a lesson to

John Hopkins in Singapore on

the gripping contest launched

by the Johnnie Walker Classic

the thrilling affair at Oak Hill,

Rochester, in September was

possibly the best yet and

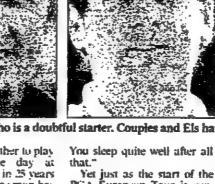
arguably the sporting - not

Good as that is, that is not all. These days, the rise in the standards of golf outside the other sports where one impor-United States means that it tant event clashes with another and the end result is a has become more of a worldlessening in importance of wide game and competitions them all. The seemingly endbetween teams from Europe less succession of strokeplay and the United States are evenly matched instead of the events among the professionone-sided affairs they used to als and leading amateurs are be. In 1995, for example, the now punctuated by two matchplay events each year. golf-watcher who supported Europe could have been sated Last year, it was the men who by the excitement and diversicompeted for the Ryder and ty of what was on offer. There Walker Cups. This year, it is s every reason to expect 1996 the turn of the women - the to be almost as exciting. amateurs of Great Britain and The Ryder Cup started the Ireland attempting to retain levelling-up of standards bethe Curis Cup at Killarney in June and the women profestween the two continents and

> Pierre in September. Here and there are other pleasing events: the eccentric President's Putter, as dottily harmy as swimming in the Serpentine on Christmas Day: the Amateur Championship. this year to be held at Turnberry: the Haiford Hewitt, that masterplece of organisation that takes piace each Easter and is regarded by its participants as being far more important than that small invitational event in Augusta, Georgia, going on at

sionals from Europe hoping to regain the Solheim Cup at St









Norman, left, who is a doubtful starter. Couples and Els have all been lured to Singapore

Littlestone - and, in 25 years so doing, only one man has failed to complete the four You do two frounds; before junch. Then you sit down and have a decent meal, a knifeit's a piece of cake, but nor

the same time, and the home internationals, as rousing a festival of amateur golf as

WORD-WATCHING

in barrels - standard food for subsettin Nebun's nary

misdirected and disastress, charge of the Light Brigade

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

g5 with 2, Rei4 and 3, Becheben account of the Robb, 2, Rei4 Buche

Consecution acress
Send chapter with redes presides to Mann Ind. 5. Mann in Lawre Lawren, SED SOM,
Delivery up to engin date (Che. Teir etter 650 675). Lawren Neumenhaumh.

În April, some real amateur

Answers from page 🙉

CHERKYBUMS

unfit for war very lee."

LORD LOOK-ON

Battle of Crampon, circa 322EC

enthusiasts will gather to play 72 holes in one day at reunds life casy enough." one of them said recently. and-fork jub and a glass or two of wine. And then you do rayo after lunch. I'm not saving am I saying it is that difficult.

Yet just as the start of the PGA European Tour is considered to act as the starting pistol for golf in Europe, so it is the professionals on this tour that demand the greatest attention. Between the start of the first event, the Johnnic Walker Classic in Singapore today, and the end of the final event, the Volvo Masters at Valderrama, Spain, on October 27, the travelling circus of players will have hit millions of golf balls and visited dozens of countries. Last year was dominated by

the week-by-week struggle between Sam Torrance and Col-Montgomerie, which became as gripping to watch as it must have been exhausting to play. That Montgomerie only won with his final stroke of the season in Europe indicates how close it all was. Would that this year will be as exciting.

SNOW REPORTS

Steam Low Spmi Low Snow Conditions Rups to le Off-to resort Piste in Under the command of Lord Cardigan infithe Charge of the Light Brigade larme, the 11th Hussan swere laughted at his the rest of the Arms for their digit-fitting pints prominents. The Times 11 April 1854. The 4400484 splendour of these magnificent light management, the shormess of their inckets, the lightness of their chern-advanced parts, all these were unerly 70 17) powder powden good cloud 46 2401 Fabulous bowder creditions aren 50cm of new shows AUSTRIA 35 75 fair 1,000d fair cloud (Pullas hard in wordhown areas thin todo, in places) 30 40 fair crus' art cloud fall Royal naval slang, or Jacks been, for the Verg past-self-by-date sain beef '334 good siving in most aleas, show gurs in use! (b) The spreader nederame for fired Lugar, the Castaley Commander (Srushy conditions on cosh profest show needed during the Crimean War A bit tartain really form Ragian, the Commander-in-Chief, had him off deciared his intention of keeping the FRANCE entialty for a handbow? Lecan, though scenich was constantly forbidden to charge into action, except when Righan ordered from to instruct the ec 70 220 good rated good tas -Exceptert stong on at but the lowest passes! 35 170 tast varied fair time (Militage weather softening show worm patiches have down) Alpeid Huez Les Arcs Ime 2 23/1 120 good varied fair of (Dusting of heath show cottening pistes) (a) The book of a shield up a plant, the entreating centre of a round shield fair afoud Avoriaz Demostheries that possion to instruction, used seen a shield at the La Plagne tas vaned wom (blast pister improved with new shout) good heavy good Ine 1 Corner. Bebel Kaelt Z. Ge Kaff, A. Buhé wanter a rook for biship with an easy gain or material. Form credit if you rejected 1. Resurfaction, to most 1..... (Good swing on and oil piste with hesh show) 60 145 good cared good si (Fresh powder in shedered areas good slung) Valid Isere ITAL (WE ARD NOW OFFERING READERS OF THE TOMES FREE DELIVERY OF THE IT MS INSTELL BELOW IT STANDING SETAIL PRICE — OFFER ENTENDED TO DECLUDE FURTHER — SET OFFIC ADDITIONATION OF USE SITEMATION OF US 300 good pawder good (Excellent skiing but poor visibility) Corvina doud -2 24/1 SWITZERLAND NERLING OR US SICHEQUES OF A Y = 2 × 51 × 150.

IMPS COMPUTER CROSS WORDS by Drud Avenual = 4.0 fb.; contain one of more and more and possess per rule for extracts and recording to the HELP benefit. For IBM PLs and Agent RISC OS (Archimeter) to the Now only 19,49 cach. The Lines Computer Crosswords box 1... 1 4 fb = 1 fb. Times Computer Crosswords box 1... 1 4 fb = 1 fb. Times Computer Crosswords box 1... 1 4 fb = 1 fb. Times Computer Crosswords bit 15. In IT, 19 = The Sanday Times Computer Crosswords V 15. 2 fc 4.5 n = The Sanday Times Contine I, 2, 3, 4 = The Sanday Times Mephisto = The Sanday Times by 1 fb. 12 fc 4 bc. The Times Outrobes Edition 2 box 150 m is 120 Times Computer Crosswords Figure = 120 Times Crosswor 6 30 wern crusty closed doud 4 (Certain pister and good worn to bare elsewhere) 15 130 tair varied worn cloud 2 (Top pates all good lower worn training)

5 50 io, maguts closed fair (ks.-hard conditions on open pistes) 15 of 20 kits open.

then aren and improved conditions; more snow to ecosts Source: Ski Club of Great Britain: Li-Tower stopes, Ui- upper

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) 6.00 News Brieling, incl weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30 7.00 7.30. 8.00 8.30 News 8.55 7.55 Weather 7.25 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather

8.58 Weather News 9.05 Face the Facts, 9.00 News 9.05 Face the Facts, with John Wate (n)
9.30 First Person Plural: Feeling the Kicks. Last in the senes of audio draies. Three single mothers to be await the birth of their babies.
10.00-10.30 News; First Men In

the Moon (FM only) The second of a lour-part adaptanon by Jee Dunloo of the novel by H G Wells W James Botam and Donald Sinden

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 This Sceptr'd isle (LW only)

The story of Britain from the

Romans to the 20th century

10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced
by Janni Murray Senal
Mother of Pearl by Mary
Memory 6120 Mornsey (6°12) 11.30 From Our Own

Corresponde 12.00 News: You and Yours
12.25pm To Boldly Go. Kevin Day
chars the second of four sciin quartes 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One with Nick

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shapping Forecast
2.00 News; Strangers on a Train
See Choice
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift,
with Daire Brehan Frieda
Morrson dispets some of the

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service myths attached to living in the

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidose previews Channel 4 s senes The Merchant of Venice 4.45 Short Story: From Marrakech, by Cathorine Linstrum Read by Gareth

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 The Airport Comedy senes

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Sons and Mothers Nick ker explores the unea auonship between fer relationship between ferr mothers and their sons 8.00 Asia Gold Edward Sloutton visits Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City to see how the poor are beginning to benefit from

economic reform Last in the 8.45 Aesthete's Foot. The Scotlish humonet John
McKay reminisces about his
adolescence (3/6)

9.00 Does He Take Sugar? With

9.30 Kaleldoscope (r) 9.59 10.00 The World Tonight, with

Robin Luslig 19.45 Book at Bedtime: Love In 10.45 Book at Bedlime: Love in the Time of Cholera, by Getnel Garcia Marquet.
Read by Robert Powell (9/15)
11.00 Thirty Minute Theatre: The American Wite See Choice
11.30-12.00 Ad Lib (FM only)
Shater Behavison talks by

Province World (M. Oriy)
Robert Robinson Ialls to midwives (I)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.30 News, incl 12.27am Weather
12.30 The Late Book: The Drowned World, by J G Ballard (4/10)
12.48 Shipping Foregast 1.00 Ap

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2 FM 66.0-90.2 RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8: LW 198. MW 720 RADIO 5 LIVE MW 693. 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 648. LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8: MW 1197. 1215. TALK RADIO UK MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Mexey. Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

بكذامن الأحيل

Confessions of the academically challenged

et us begin with a confes-sion. I have not watched the first round of University Challenge (BBC2) with anything approaching my usual dedication and before we go any further I had bener explain why. I cannot answer the questions any more.

Over the past few weeks, every time I have dipped in for a quick starter for ten, Jeremy Paxman has asked the sort of question that sends me scurrying over to Des O'Connor on ITV. An almost audible sneer seems to follow: Too tough for you, huh?" It is.

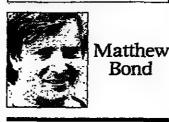
Now this would be a shaming enough admission for any graduate but it is doubly so for a television critic. For when University Challenge returned last year. sans Bamber and avec Jeremy, my how we all scoffed. Easy, peasy. lemon squeezy we all said. They don't make questions like they used to, we all said. And my wasn't it pitiful, we all said, how those up every time a question on pop music came along?

Last night it was my once eager, once undergraduate eyes that waited in vain for a nice question about the Sex Pistols or Spandau Ballet. It never came - the flame of academia, that had once burnt so brightly (well, I always thought so), flickered and went out. Paxman was merciless. The

play by Aeschylus entitled Seven Against Thebes is based on the story of which tragic hero?" Er ... Which aluminium oxide has the gem stone varieties sapphire and ruby, while its mixture with iron oxide and spinel are called emery? Um ... "Which king was buried in Worcester Cathedral after dying of dysentery?" I knew it, I knew ... I didn't. "Which book of the Bible follows Jeremiah and is an account of that prophet's complaint that God had rejected him and his people?" Lamentable, I "I'll accept that," said Paxman.

There were other rare moments of encouragement as Middlesex University took on Selwyn College, Cambridge. "What does the symhol PH stand for on an Ordnance Survey map?" Now I definitely knew that. The woman reading English at Selwyn, who earlier had impressively known that Drambule was Gaelic for "pleasing drink", seemed confident too. She pressed her buzzer: "Phone?" Rather meanly, I cheered.

The result of this onerous first round is an egalitarian field that would gladden the heart of even Harriet Harman two colleges each from Oxford and Cambridge, three "new universities" (aka former polytechnics) and five other well-known establishments of assorted antiquity and brick colour. Middlesex against Selwyn was new against old and REVIEW



produced a thrilling contest that went right down to the gong -and just past it.
It fell to the woman reading

herbal medicine at Middlesex, who earlier had beaten the Cambridge biochemist to "cholesterol". to press the final buzzer. With the scores level, Paxman moved to the sudden death tie-break. "1.732 is to 3 decimal points ... " Buzz. "E," shouted the herbalist.

thought...before, in a dazzling moment of mathematical déjà vu, I realised she meant "e". Nothing to do with drugs, everything to do with natural logarithms - how clever. "Wrong," said Paxman, deducting five point for an incorrect interruption and handing the game to Selwyn. And so it was, that for the square root of three the battle was lost. If I ever start getting the answers right again, I

The workings of the brain play a key role in Hetty Wainthropp Investigates (BBCI) and it is driving me mad. The cod brass band music I can take, the overacting I might be able to accept, but Hetty Wainthropp and her "little grey cells" - no way. Borrowing one fictional detective's catchphrase to raise the supposed credibility of another, and an infinitely inferior one to boot ... well, it's very annoying.

could grow to like this game

Technically this is an accomplished and good-looking production. Last night's episode, for instance, began with Robert Tronson stylishly setting the scene for what looked a promising tale of witchcraft and skulduggery. But you don't get sacrificial virgins or naked cavorting in Hetty Wainthropp, oh no. You get handbagged.

Tou get handbagged by the enormous performance that Patricia Routledge gives in the title role. It may have succeeded in consigning Hyacinth Bucket to history but it leaves the support-ing cast with a bleak choice: overact or disappear. Understandably, most choose the former, turning each episode into a succession of music-hall turns that makes me long for the delicate touch of the equally implausible but far more enjoyable Pie in the Sky. Hetty Wainthropp, who dis-

hold with despair: "Not for young or old," Well, maybe not, but after four episodes I'm coming close. I began with a confession, so let

me finish with some advice. Just watch the first 20 minutes of Hollywood Mea (ITV) and then switch over. For, after two episodes, a pattern has emerged — the first 20 minutes are meticulously assembled, highly entertaining, highly undernanding television fabulous. Then something happens - the pace slows, the stars fade ... and suddenly you find vourself considering, for the second week running, mutilations of the male organ. Last week it was penis enlargement, this week it was penis-ectomy and John Wayne Bobbitt, now carving out a new career as a porn star. Life is too short — but I expect some Beverly Hills plastic surgeon is working on that, too.

BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (14019) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (29635632) 9.10 Kilroy (s) (2771293)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6424089) 10.05 Cen't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (6918380) 10.30 Good Morning (8) (11854)

12.00 News (Ceefax) (6054361) 12.05pm Pebble Mill Special about the show A Little Night Music (9292767) 12.50 Regional News (13997922) 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceetax) and

1.30 Neighbours (Caefax) (s) (64086748) 1.50 The Flying Doctors (Cestax) (s) (1124922) 2.35 This is Your Life (r)

(Ceefax) (s) (4210125) Timekeepers (s) (5426477) 3.30 The New Yogi Bear Show (r) (7272800) 3.35 The Morph Files (s) (2764564) 3.50 Peter Pan and the Pirates (r) (Ceelax) (s) (1733212) 4.10 Highlander (Ceelax) (s) (3811075) 4.35 The Really Wild Show (Caetax) (s) (9780477)

5.00 Neweround (Ceefax) (4155699) 5.10 Grange Hill (Cestax) (s) (7399090)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefex) (s) (344583) 6.00 News (Ceetex) and weather (941)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (293) N.L. 6.30 Neighbours 6.57 Inside Uister News 7.00 Top of the Pops (Cestax) (s) (9516) 7.30 EastEnders. Paulins takes on the council, and Roy arranges to meet Frank(Ceetex) (s) (477)

8.00 The Vet Out of the Past Drame sories about a Devon vaterinery practice. With Suzanne Burdan and Richard Hawley (Ceatax) (s) (964354)

8.50 Animal Hospital Heroes. Roll Hams remembers some of the heart-warming Hospital in London (Cestax) (a) (701380) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional

news and weather (9361) 9.30 French and Saunders. Comedy

sketches (Ceefax) (a) (46922) 10.00 Crimewatch UK. Presented by Nick Rose and Jill Dando (Ceefax) (s) (716106) 10,45 Question Time. With MPs Virginia Bottomley, Simon Hughes and Clare Short and Judge Stephen Turnim. (Ceetax) (536651) N.L.: 10.45 Spotlight 11.15 Question Time 12.15am Crimewatch Update 12.25 Hunger for Faith 12.45 FILM: Cop for the Killing 2.15 Weather WALES: 10.45 The Slate (576019) 11.15 Question Time (533564) 12.15em Crimewatch Update (5744133) 12.25 Hunger for Faith (2770292) 12.45 Bowls (9962591) 1.25 News(4234846) 11.45 Crimewatch UK Update (Caefax) (a)

11.55 Hunger for Feith. The writer Rana Kabbani discovers the heart and soul of British Islam (1/4) (Ceetax) (s) (497699) 12.15 FILM: Sound of Love (1978) with John Jarrett and Celia de Burgh. A dritter and a motor mechanic are drawn together by their experiences in a clinic for the deaf. Directed by John Power (7173317)

1.35 Westher (2802862)

Video-Piese + and the Video Phis/Codes
The numbers next to each TV programme lesting are Video
Publicate * numbers which allow you to programme your
video recover instantly with a Video-Pies * handset.
Video-Pies + ten be used with each window. Tap in the Video
Puss Code for the programme you seek to record, For more
dictals call Video-Pies on 0039 121204 (calls cod; Seahman
these take, 46p, man at offer threat or write to Video-Pies +,
Acomes Lid. 5 heary resuse Flantation What, London SWH i
3TV Video-Pies + (*) Flancode (*) and Video Programme
are hadematics of Gernatar Development Lid.

BBC2 6.00am Business and Work (96831)

7.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax) (6015767) 7.15 Lassie (r) (3139545) 7.40 Teerage Mutant Hero Turties (r) (7113800) 8.05 Blue Peter (r) (Ceelax) (s) (5246816) 8.35 The Record (s) (9420651) 9.00 For the Love of It (6370361)

Love of R (6370361)

9.05 Daytime on Two: Science (4020816)

9.30 Lemexpress (3174748) 9.45 Over the Moon (3162903) 10.00 Playdays (8917651) 10.25 Storytime (7175835) 10.45 Science Zone (4123212) 11.05 Space Ark (9246019) 11.15 Sex Education (3976598) 11.35 Landmerks (2440038) 12.00 Christianity (3942854) 12.18 Ciementine (435500) 12.30pm Working Linch (51800) 1.00 Lieserbool Working Lunch (51800) 1.00 Lifeschool (32796458) 1.25 Technology (28822309)

1.40 Numbertime (64071670) 2.00 Tales of the Tooth Fairles (r) (61257212) 2.05 Puppydog Tales (r)

(61256583) 2.10 The Andrew Neil Show (s) (6380800). WALES: 2,10-3.00 Bowls (5380800)

4.00-6.00 Bowls (7545) 3.00 News (Ceetax) Westminster (7183584) 3.55 News (Ceetax) (5149187)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (106) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (390) 5.00 The Oprah 5.40 Still in Business. (140854) 5.55 My VIIIage (728629)

6.00 Star Treic Deep Space Mine. (Centar) (a) (786922) 8.45 They Who Dare (a)

7,00 Waiting for God, Retirement home comedy (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8038) WALES: 7.00 Pound for Pound

7.30 First Sight: Back to Plague Us. How the health authorities in New York have managed to curb a large tuberculosis apidemic (449). NORTHERN IRELAND: 7.30 Now You're Talking 7.56 Our Roving Reporter; WALES: 7.30 Whatever Happened to the Likely Eade? EAST: 7.30 Matter of Fact; MIDLANDS: 7.30 Midlanda Report: NORTH, NORTH EAST, NORTH WEST: 7.30 Close Up North; SOUTH: 7.30 Southern Eye; SOUTH WEST, WEST: 7.30 Close Up



Benking on Lord Spens (8.00pm)

8,00 My Brilliant Career. The banker Lord Spens talks about his career and his fight to clear his name in the Guinness affair (Ceefax) (a) (4458) 8.30 Jeremy Clarkson's Motonworld. Australia (Ceelax) (s) (6293)

9.00 Traces of Guilt: Dead Witness(Ceelex) (s) (846090) 9.50 Potted Histories(Ceefax) (8) (399800) 10.00 Game On, Cornecty (r), (Ceefax) (59318)

10.39 Newsnight (Ceeizx) (418212) 11.15 European Figure Skating Champion-ships (382583) 11.55 Weather 12.00 The Midnight Hour (s) (43442)

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

CHOICE

Survival: Stone Runner ITV. 7.30pm

Since the stone curiew chooses to nest in open country, exposed to danger from both man and fellow beasts, its decline is not nan and enow beasts, its detaile is not surprising. In the 1930s there were some 1,000 pairs nesting in Britain. Now there are barely 150. The good news is that the decline has been arrested and even slightly reversed. Nobody has done more to ensure the breed's survival than Chris Knights, who is both a farmer, with 2,000 acres in Norfolk, and a distinguished wildlife cameraman. As a farmer he makes sure than any stone curlews on his land are protected as far as can be from tractors, foxes and sheep. As a film-maker he records the curlew's annual arrival in Britain from warmer climes, the cycle of mating and breeding and the autumn departure. His footage provides an engaging record of a rare speci

Traces of Guilt: Dead Witness BBC2, 9.00pm

The forensic science series moves to Guatemala, where the challenge for the experts is to uncover the truth about killings which took place 12 years before. The location is a small hillside village where more than 100 people lie in mass graves. The official version is that they were victims of the civil war between the military Government and left-wing guerrillas. Surviving villagers allege genocide. Bones and bullets are all the team have to go on, as the project takes on the character of an archaeological dig. But bones can reveal how people died and bullets are a ciue to the guns which fired them. Dr Clyde Snow, who leads the team, says that history is usually written by the victors. Here it is written by science, though the conclusions are not welcome to the current regime.

Thief Takers ITV, 9.00pm

Television's newest police series has strong echoes of an old one and not just because Tom Clegg, who directs this episode of Thief Takers, performed the same function more than 20 years ago on the pilot for The Sweeney. Where The Sweeney was a John Takers has an ensemble cast but otherwise differences. Both shows feature Scotland Yard's Flying Squad, a rough and cynical bunch whose behaviour is often little better than that of the villains they are chasing. Both shows, too, feature sex and violence The opening plot links a prison escape, a security van hijack and a detective who is having an affair with a villain's wife. It has most of the The Sweeney ingredients except one: a sense of humour.

Channel 4. 10.00pm

The much-praised New York cop show returns for its third season, though for any British viewer new to the series there must be two warnings. One is to listen carefully to the dialogue, for it is not only economical but the words which do reach the screen are thrown away so quickly that it is easy to miss them. The second word of caution is that the dizzying camera pans, which the show seemingly cannot resist, are not restful on the eyes. Otherwise the series can be recommended to those who like their fictional detectives to be tough but flawed, do not flinch at the odd shooting or assault and velcome the authenticity which comes from taking the cameras out of the studio and into real places. As usual the episode features a raft of overlapping stories in which the cops' private lives feature almost as strongly as their professional ones. Peter Waymark

HTV

6.00am GMTV (2575564) 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (4028458) 9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (6821800) 10.00 The Time . . . the Place (1775496)

10.35 This Morning(57916106) 12.20pm Regional News (Teletaxt) (6050545) 12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (6364767) 12.55 Shortland Street (s) (9333361)

1.20 Coronation Street (r) (Teletext) (32792532) 1.50 Home and Away (Teleted) (76822632) 2.20 Chain Letters. Word gams (Teletext) (s)

2.50 Vanessa (Teletext) (4201477)

3.20 News (Telelext) (2946651)

3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (2945922) 3.30 The Riddlers (2776309) 3.40 Wizadon (r) (s) (7350632) 3.55 Rupert (3779629) 4.20 Mike and Angelo (s) (9116467) 4.45 Reboot II (Teletext) (s) (9771729)

5.10 A Country Practice. Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s) (6824632) 5.40 News and weather (Telelext) (860106) 6.00 Home and Away Selina accuse

Damian of being cynical and selfish and Shannon discovers why Fisher wants to transfer below-average students (r) (Teletext) (237800) 6.25 HTV News (137380)

7.00 Emmerdale. Terry and Viv trip the light fanlastic (Teletext) (5564)

7.30 Survival: Stone Runner. Saving the stone curiew (Teletaxt) (a) (545) 8.00 The Bill: Worst Feers. While Deakin Investigates the Iddnapping of a five-year-old boy, Conway gets some unsettling news (Teletart) (4212)

8.30 Blues and Twoe: Taking Bricks. A police inspector is shown trying to combat the high drug-related crime rate plaguing Chapeltown in West Yorkshire (Telesex) (a) (4449)



The Flying Squad is back (9.00pm)

9.00 Thief Takers: No One Likes to See That(Taletext) (9800) 10.00 News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (24212) 10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (600816)

10.40 FILM: Extreme Prejudice (1987). Drugs-busting thriller with an excess of violence, starring Nick Notte, Powers Boothe and Michael Ironside. Directed by Welter Hill (Teletext) (s) (64594187)

12.40 Not Fede Away: John Altman. His music video choica (s) (4735012) 1.40 Shift (4309152)

2.40 The Crime Hour (r) (7095862)

3.35 Late Night Romantics (r) (s) (1306201) 4.30 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (78713) 5.00 The New Mr & Mrs Show (1) (20688) 5.30 Morning News (48997)

A PART AND As HTV WEST except: 6 25pm-7 00 Wates Tonight (575903) 7.30-8.00 Swansee Festival (545)

WESTCOUNTRY As HTV West except: 12.25-12.30 My Story (6068564)

12.55 Chain Letters (6349458) 1.25 Emmerdale (32791903) 1,55-2.25 Home and Away (76821903) 2.25 Vanessa (18766922)

2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (1435899) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6824632) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (36545)

CENTRAL As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (6349458) 1.25 Chain Letters (32791903) 1.55 A Country Practice (64054903) 2.20 Vanessa (18767651) 2.50-3.20 High Road (4201477)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6824632) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather 12.40em Live from the Lilydrome (6440607)

2.35 Shift (7115997) 3,30 The Crime Hour with John Staker and Mary Nightingale (1307930) 4.25 Jobfinder (5508065)

5.20 Asian Eye (3407404) REPUBLIAN

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 Chain Letters (6349458) 1.25 Home and Away (32791903) 2.20 Vanessa (18767851)

2.50-3.20 Behind the Scenes with Penelope Keith (4201477) 5.10 Home and Away (6824632) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (309)



1.30 Film: Billy the Kid (13688458) 3.15 Rioki Lake (5549767) 4.00 Backdate (274) 4.30 Trevelog (458) 5.00 5 Pump Uned 5 (6670)

5.30 Countdown (598) 6.00 Newyddion 6/ News (799670) 6,15 Heno (224767) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (628038) 7.25 Pwv Di Pwv? (888941)

8.00 Y Ferch Drys Ness (2854) 8.30 Newyddion/ News (1361) 9.00 Or Gajon (2699) 9.00 Caru Ar Y Teli (2699)

9.30 Mewn Deg (39632) 10.00 Pflab (183854) 10.35 GIR Ar Gam (418361)

11.00 Tm Bo Day (4816) 11.30 A Oes Cariad? (13293) 12.00em Dispetches (2658317) GANNE TAX 6.35em Think Tank with Mickey Hutton (r) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (58800)

9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Teletext) (s) (43201) 9.30 Schools: Middle English (3169816) 9.45 Place and People (1501767) 10.05 Scientific Eye (1325125) 10.25 Geographical Eye Over Britain (7160903) 10.45 Quest (1790729) 11.00 History in Action: Hypotheticals (7994191) 11.20 Ri Ra (8470729) 11.40 The German Programme (5180212)

12.00 House to House (21125) 12.30pm Sesame Street with Carol Channing, Kevin Kline and Phoebe Cates (33651) 1.30 Huliaballoo (r) (s) (58767)

2.00 Seers and Clowns (86403583) 2.10 FiLM: The Easy Way (1952, b/w) starring Cary Grant and Betsy Drake as a couple with three children of their own who become foster parents to two other youngsters. Directed by Norman Taurog

4.00 Backdate. (Teletext) (8) (274) 4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (458) 5.00 Rick Late: You Got the Job Red You Are Black (Teletent) (s) (7989854) 5.45 Terrytoons (134293)

6.00 Home improvement: Dollars and Sense. American comedy series. (Telstext) (s) (651)

6.30 Moviewatch (r) (s) (903) 7.00 Channel 4 News and weather (Teletext) (977632) **7,50 The Slot** (855800) 8.00 The Pulse. Shahnaz Pakravan reports

on irritable bowel syndrome. (Teletext) (s) (2854) 8.30 A Taste of the Caribbean: Curação. Donnda Hafner vielts the former Dutch colony. (Teletext) (a) (1361)

9.00 in Advance of the Landing. A journey into the bizarre world of starships, space saviours and new branches of pseudoscience in America, meeting outer space devotees preparing for the arrival of aliens (r) (Teletext) (s) (3870)



10.00 NYPD Blue: ER (Teletext) (s) 10.55 Whose Line is it Anyway? (r). (Telelexi)

(s) (434309) 11.25 Just for Laugha (368903) 12.05em Dispetches (r) (2847317)

1.35 Rebettion of the Hanged. Set in Mexico in 1909, this is the story of a drunk who gambled his way through a fortune. In Spenish with English aubtitles (r) (4408046)

3.00 FILM: Backlash (1986) starring Devid Argue as a racist policeman who, with probationer constable Gla Carides, is assigned to take a young Aboriginal from the is to stand trial for murrler. Directed by Bill Bennett (163997). Ends at 4,35

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday SKY ONE

7.00am The DJ Kat Show (94485) 8.30 Press Your Light (4*187) 9.00 Court TV (61767) 8.30 Title Oprah Winfrey Show (42922) 10.30 Concentration (50651) 11.00 14392) 10.30 Concentrator (50%) 11.00 Jeopardy, 1230pe Marphy Brown (7904) 1.00 The Watters (7478) 2.00 Jeopardy, 14390, 1230pe Marphy Brown (7904) 1.00 The Watters (7478) 2.30 Seazch (8581) 2.00 Cont TV (1902) 3.30 The Optich Winter Store (2800) 9.415 Under (45872) 9.00 Say Teek The Net Generator (5583) 6.00 The Sampsons (271) 6.30 Jeopardy (3354) 7.00 LAPO (271) 7.30 Min. 1478 (3354) 7.00 LAPO (271) 7.30 Min. 1478 (3354) 7.00 LAPO (171) 7.00 Min. 1478 (3354) 7.00 LAPO (171) 7.00 Min. 1478 (3467) 10.00 Say (764 Min. 1484) (3467) 10.00 Say (764 Min. 1484) (3467) 10.00 Say (764 Min. 1484) (3467) ion (27835) 11.00 (aw and Oxfer (94870) 12.00 (Late Store with Dead Letterman 68064231 12.45mm, The Undercrabbes 6130626; 1.50 SiBS (27084) 2.00-6.00 His

SKY NEWS News or the Poor
6.00em Survey (8567496) 10.30 ABC
Mightine (8289) 11.00 World News and
Business (8289) 11.00 World News and
Business (8289) 1.30pes CBS News This
Moning (76187) 2.30 Parliament Live (1632) 4.00
World News and Business (81849) 5.00
Live at Five (3125) 6.30 Yengha with Adam
Soution (1436) 8.30 Yengha with Adam
Soution (1436) 8.30 Yengha with Adam
Soution (1436) 8.30 Yengha with Adam
15.000 11.30 CSS Evening News (66941)
12.30ma ABC World News (3679) (3262)
1.30 Tongrit with Adam Bouton Replay
(85626) 2.30 November (96336) 3.30
Perferrent Replay (2788) 4.30 CBS
Extury News (9971) 5.30-6.00 ABC
World News Tongrit
SKY MONTRES

SKY MOVIES × (1937) ₁37019) 8.00 Dates. (1934). 63456; 10.00 Semantal Dates. (1935). 73365; 10.00 Semantal Couloop (1935). 73390; 12.00 The Spy with My Fee (1946) (55019; 2.000-Dates; (1939). 19157; 4.00 Attack on the Iron Coast (1968). 7157; 6.00 Seminar #500 COMMS (1965) :715-7 6.00 SERVICES COMMON (1965) :275-305-30) 7.46 US Top Ten (792272): 8.00 Westband at Bernsh's R (1965) |\$4657, 8.10 The Politice Erich (1965) :765-2255 (1.13 Denth Wilsh V— the Faco of Denth (1993) (229616) 1.25am Benefit of the Doubt (1993) (810826) 3.00-5.00 Secret Caremony SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Captain Blood (1935) (9729) 8.00 Lefs the Love (1950) (81400 E.00 The Hostage Fourer (1950) (15038) 10.00 Project X (1987) (897816) 11.55 Some-times a Great Notion (1971) (387309) 1.50.3.35em The Milky Way (1968)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

THE DISNEY CHANNEL THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Stoy Movies Gold from 10pm to 4am.
8.00am Unitedia Tree (31790748) 8.30
Fraggie Rock (44251570) 7.30 Victnie the
Pooli (74977057) 7.30 Ducislass
69977255) 8.00 Cmp in 'Dale (85649903)
8.30 Ackentuses in Vicadorbard (48548274)
9.00 Walt Daney Proports (31708496)
10.00 Under the Unitedia Tree (500255652)
10.30 Fraggie Rock (49568038) 11.00
Alupest Babbis (59827962) 11.30 Pooli
Conter (59828651) 12.00 Cuach Attach
(48542030) 12.30pm Duritho's Celus
(2045862) 1.00 Wanderland (75327538)
1.30 The Santad Show (21395403) 2.00
The Torketoms (20957361) 2.30 Frame Tate
Theatre (16486670) 3.30 Warne the Pooli
(14856570) 4.00 Cuach Attach (22381467)
4.30 Duchales (35066831) 5.00 Cmp in
Dale (20951941) 8.30 Dange Bay
(15086011) 8.00 Tatam (1826634) 6.30
Deceases (24531966) 7.00 Film Feth
Avenue Carl (6726290) 8.30 Zono
(20956632) 9.00-10.00 Errenterment Specal Herbook. (20835125)

EUROSPORT 7.30em Figure Skaling (77545) 9.00 Euroski (24361) 9.30 Snowboarding (51380) 10.00 Tenns (9130293) 4.30pm Figure Skating (2203361) 9.00 Tenns (71670) 10.00-12.30em Football (536019) SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sky Sports Centre (38038) 7.30 Hasing News (17545) 8.00 Snowboard Tour (48670) 8.30 Rugby (48341) 9.00 Aerobics Or: Style (38283) 9.30 Furbol Mundial (78212) 10.00 Ford Scorpu Golf USA (63748) 12.00 Aerobics Or Style (28729) 12.30pm Boots 'n' All (7569) 2.30 Grass-biet (4884) 2.00 European Mes-

7.00em The Rugby Club (4739729) 8.00 Netbusters (4748477) 9.00 Ford Scorpo Golf USA Lee (4741564) 11.00-1.00a Golf (8010496)

4.00mm Living World 5.00 Kenneth Cope-land 5.30 Kids TV 5.45 Chrishen Entertain-ment 6.15 Cotin Dye 8.45-7.00 Music SKY SOAP

SKY TRAVEL 11.00am Globstroter (4354554) 11.30 Reads to Freedom (435593) 12.00 De-cover Your World (7207962) 12.30pm Frugal Gourmer Cooks Ratem (5705532) 1.00 Around the World (7337941) 13.7 Travel Guode (5704903) 2.00 Su Special (3401421) 3.00 Gelaway (8863564) 3.30-4.00 Kide Rouse Intro-12980411

4.90pm The Great Days of Our Contary The Spanish Was (4345816) 5.00 The Changing Face of Briton (\$850816) 6.00-7.00 Begraphy Nostradamus (5713651) THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

12.30pm Boots 'n' All (75699) 2.30 Grass Roots Rugby (4361) 3.00 European Mas-fers Pool (360187) 6.00 Sports Centro (5090) 6.30 Rugby Union (9670) 7.00 Tight Lines (839390) 7.55 Sports Centre (125651) 8.00 foe Warnors' Cardiff Devils v Durham Wasps (77854) 10.00 Sports Centre (27458) 10.30 Tight Lines (98380) 11.30 Notbustiers (68274) 12.30mm foe Warnors (20794) 2.30-3.00 Sports Centre (44862) SKY SPORTS 2

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

7.00am Guding Light (7134564) 7.55 As the World Turns (9669583) 8.50 Peyton Place (4217629) 8.20 Days of Our Lives 18.10-11.00 Another World (9228983)

(6401421) 3.00 Gejaway (886356 4.00 Kids Down Under (2380941) THE HISTORY CHANNEL

1,00am Swamp Thing (6379210) 1.30 Ray



9,00em The Joy of Painting (6349212) 9.30 Grow with Joe (7766564) 10,00 Two's Country (7196855) 10,30 Our House (6345496) 11,00 The Painted House (572947) 11,30 Running Repair (5720106) 12,00 Julia Child (6336748) 12,30pm The Frugal Gourner (7790380) 10,0 Yan Can Cook (8862632) 1,30 On the Edge (7796651) 2,00 Dogs with Durbar (2233019) 2,30 Secret Gardens (159363) 3,00 Two's Country (225354) 3,30-4,00 The Old House (1492800) UK GOLD

7.05am Angels (2427390) 7.30 Neighbours (8884854) 8.00 Sond and Euophias (8335019) 8.30 EastEnders (5327390) 8.00 The Bill (6341870) 9.30 The Sulvans (778962) 10.00 All Creature. Great and Small (8880036) 11.00 Junet Braio (8660274) 12.00 Sons and Euophier (6338106) 12.30pm Neighbours (7780051 1.00 EastEnders (886090) 1.30 The Bill (7708309) 2.00 The Sulvans (8185025) (7708309) 2.00 The Sulfrans, (61950835) 2.25 Arg You Being Served* (2:79038) 3.00 Anguls (2237212) 3.30 Eldorodo (157458)

4.00 Casushy (35358729) 6.05 Larry Grayson's Generation Game (77258108) 6.15 Kenny's Comic Culs (9607922) 6.25 EsstEnders (8490338) 7.00 Eborado (2229293) 7.30 Happy Ever After (1583106) 8.00 Get Some Int (2239941) 8.00 Home James (224748) 9.00 Minder (4591729) 10.00 The Bill (9539748) 10.35 Classic Sport (15663816) 11.40 FYTV (1021458) 12.20ean Everybody's Equal (4215775) 12.50 FILM' Suspicion (3235220) 2.30 Shopping at Night.

TCC 6.00em Swan's Crossing (51187) 6.30 Pugwaii (72019) 7.00 Ready or Noi (15926) Pugual (72019) 7300 reson us not 1100cm 7.30 California Dreams (16941) 8.00 Sweet Valley High (83038) 8.30 Tiny TCC (55561212) 12.35pm Tiny TCC (49586729) 2.30 Jim Henson's Animal Show (8729) 3.00 Sonce the Hedgehag (1187) 3.30 The New Pinik Parities' Show (2274) 4.00 California Dreams (2309) 4.30-5.00 S

NICKELODEON 6.00am Henry's Cal (5276458) 6.15 Blue, Child of the Earth (590564) 6.45 Youcan Ter (9910551) 7.00 Ballink (7079632) 7.05 Gnirarty (6743106) 7.45 Rugrets/Doug

(585019) 8.15 Asaini^{III} Real Monsters (2965212) 8.30 Rocko's Modern Life (46583) 9.00 Ahrn and the Chapmunks (37835) 9.30 Pee-Wee's Playhouse (74854) (3783) 9.30 Pee-Wee's Playhouse (74854) 10.00 Barena Sandwich (44699) 11.00 Children's BBC (24835) 12.00 Magic School Bus (67699) 12.00pm Grimmy (78670) 1.00 Global Guis (29651) 1.30 Visionantes (77941) 2.00 Children's BBC (88274) 3.00 The Luttlest Pet Shop (5816) 3.30 Teenage Mutart Hero Turdes (4748) 4.00 The Ferals (6583) 4.30 Rugrats and Doug (2767) 5.00 Sater Saler (8831) 5.30 Anncy Drev (2019) 6.00 Pen and Stimoy Nancy Drev (2019) 6.00 Pen and Stimoy Doug (2767) 5.00 Sister Sister (8831) 5.30 Nancy Drew (3019) 6.00 Ren and Stimpy (3632) 6.30 The Adventures of Pete and Pete (7212) 7.00 The Odyssey (8075) 7.30-8.09 Cracula (5496) DISCOVERY 4.00pm Bush Tucker Men (1584835) 4.30 Ambulance' (1580019) 5.00 Treasure Hunt-ers (2247699) 5.30 Terra X (1504899) 8.00 Invention (1594212) 6.30 Beyond 2000 (1227944) 7.30 Arbur C Claine (1591749) P. 00 The Ambus Control (1591749) 9.01 Tro

8.00 The Protessionals (4502835) 9.00 Top Marques (5732941) 9.30 Science Detectives (7787816) 10.00 Classic Wheels (4592458) 11.00-12.00 Fangs' the Super BRAVO 12.00 FILM: The Sime People (8586583) 1.30pm Death Valley Days (7793477) 2.00 Danger Man (7184090) 3.00 The Bucca-neers (2222380) 3.30 William Tell (1592954) nees; (222238) vi 330 www.m i ell (1552576) 4,00 FILM Revolt at Fort Larame (5576705) 5,30 Honey West (1591125) 6,00 Dead at 21 (1580038) 6,30 Jason King (1122390) 7,30 The Green Homet (1576274) 8,00 Space 1999 (4599361) 8,00 The Presoner

(4519125) 10.00-12.00 FiLM Last Ent to Brooklyn (5727019)

PARAMOUNT B.00pm Entertainment Tonight (6545) 8.30 The Ood Couple (6380) 8.00 Brothers (23545) 9.30 Laverne and Shirley (65106) 10.00 Entertainment Tonight (45800) 10.30 Dr Kazz (34748) 11.00 Ren and Stimpy (28090) 11.30 The Guyve (84723) 12.00 I Love Lucy (25084) 12.30ta The Odd Couple (85978) 1.00 Brothers (81336) 1.30 Laverne and Shirley (21442) 2.00 Entertainment Tonight (63997) 2.30 Dr Kazz (42404) 3.00 Ren and Shirley (61572) 3.30-4.00 The Guyve (60684)

UK LIVING 6.00am Agony Hour (5232635) 7.00 Kitoy (9354767) 8.00 Eather (9975632) 8.30 More Front Gardens (9974903) 8.00 Gournet heterd (3813748) 9.35 Kate and Alied (2003361) 10.05 The Jerry Springer Show (8047670) 11.00 The Young and the Resisess (8466019) 11.55 Brooksade (6088106) 12.30pcm Dangerous Women (4466651) 1.25 Crosswits (5552534) 2.00 Agony Hour (2632187) 3.00 Live at Three (1689748) 4.00 Infahaston UK (1104019) 4.30 Crosswits (5793880) 5.05 Lingo (82096800) 5.30 Liucky Laddens (1117583) 6.00 Bewitched (1114496) 8.30 Brooksade (2713728) 7.05 Rhodes around Britan (2559670) 7.40 The Joker's Wild (1617212) 8.05 The Young and the Rostless (5737583) 9.00 Fill.M. Revenge of the Stephord Wives (74185651) 10.50 Emeranment Now! (7198816) 11.00-12.00 The Erogenous Zone (6343729)

FAMILY CHANNEL 5.00pm Ocean Odyssey (6632) 5.30 The Adventures of Timn (593922) 5.55 Batman (143293) 6.30 Catchphrase (3038) 7.00 Timal Pursuit (6496) 7.30 My Two Dads (2922) 8.00 McIcenna (17496) 9.00 Ruft Rendelt (97632) 10.00 Treasure Hurt (81449) 11.00 Neon Rider (13854) 12.00 The Adventures of Timin (38572) 12.30am Bordertoen (21794) 1.00 Batman (10862) 1.30 Rhoda (34630) 2.00 Big Brother Jake (38341) 2.30 Neon Rider (23268) 2.30 Rhoda (71830) 4.00 Big Brother Jake (3822) 3.30-300 Ocean Odyssey (31355)

MTV

6.30am The Grand (74477) 7.00 3 from 1 (9584800) 7.15 Awake (3490545) 8.00 Videos (749941) 11.00 Soul (65449) 12.00 Hits (95361) 1.00pm Music Non-Stop (6185729) 2.15 3 from 1 (20102125) 2.30 Sports (4877) 3.00 Cnematic 3.15 Hanging Out (172353) 4.00 News 4.15 Hanging Out (8244922) 4.20 Dal MTV (3851) 5.00 Top Ten Tunes (7125) 6.00 Hanging Out (11545) 7.00 Greatest Htts (31269) 8.00 The Worst of Most Wanted (4274) 8.30 Guide to Attemptive Music (22105) 9.30 Service and Rub-hand (96090) 10.00 News 10.15 Cinematic (725941) 10.30 Aeon Flux (41496) 11.30 The End? (14748) 12.30am VH-1

7.00mm Power Breekfast (7336212) 9.00 Cate (8207456) 12.00 Heart and Soul (5726125) 1.00pm Viryl Years 2.00 Jona-than King (2106039) 3.00 Into the Music (2828564) 8.00 Bruce Springsteen

(5722309) 7.00 VH-1 for You (4731187) 8.00 Review (4740835) 9.00 Ten of the Best: Def Leppard (4750699) 10.00 Vmyl Years (4730458) 11.00 The Bridge (8012854) 1.00em Morten Harket 13083784 2.00 Dawn Pastel

ZEE TV

7.00 m Asian Morning (8666) 274) 8.30
7.00 m Asian Morning (8666) 274) 8.30
7.10 hule Love Stones (21656982) 9.00 Tamilifum Puchu Puchu Arthangel (90315941) 12.00 Dekh 8har Dekh (13551598) 12.20 pm Inde Show (52856309) 1.00 Hand Movier Fyar Ka Sasya (82173651) 4.00 Zee Tone (42315019) 5.00 Zee Zone (37907699) 8.30 Puripab Fob (11763458) 8.00 Countdown to Cricket (11793699) 8.30 Euripab Fob (11763458) 8.00 Countdown to Cricket (11793699) 8.30 Furipab Fob (11763458) 8.30 Andas (37907635) 7.30 Galazzen (11779355) 8.15 Nems (37996589) 8.30 Andas (37975090) 9.00 Urdu Serial Kachey Dhagey (57727651) 10.00 Zee Horror Show (12101057) 10.30 Your Zindag (30101877) 11.00 Commander (42316748) 11.30-11.00 Sn Rinchna CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Cartoons from Sam to 7pm; TNT films. 7.00pm Beau Brummel (1954) (90177895) 9.00 Deef Scritts and Johnny 1971/1989 BJU Deef Smith and Johnsty Earn (1973) (20616090) 11.00 Ringo and His Golden Pistol (1966) (42468622) 12.40am The Silent Stranger (1969) (90999152) 2.20-4.20 Dirty Dingus Mages (1970)

CNN/QVC BBC PRIME

8.00 mm BSC Newsday 6.30 Jackenory 6.45 The Secret Garden 7.15 Bus Peter 7.40 Castchword 8.10 A Question of Sport 8.40 The B8 9.10 The Best of Kitroy 10.05 Can't Cook Word: Cook 10.30 Good Morning 12.05pm Petible Mill 1.00 Wildlife 1.30 The B8 2.00 Hot Chefa 2.10 Kitroy 2.55 Jackanory 3.10 The Secret Garden 3.40 Bius Peter 4.05 Catchword 4.35 Duty Men 5.30 2point4 Children 6.00 The World 10.05 a.50 The Great Amagues Hurri 7.00 Fresh Fields 7.30 EastEnders 8.00 Tears Before Bedtime 9.00 BBC News 9.30 Hord Du Loc 11.00 The Oneclin Line 12.00 Kate and Alie 12.25sm The Rift Raff Element 1.15 Blake 5 Seven 2.10 Lytion's Dany 3.05 Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game 4.05 The Raff Element 4.55 The

EUROPEAN TOUR OPENS FOR BUSINESS IN SINGAPORE

THURSDAY JANUARY 25 1996

Rowell summons teenaged wing

English rugby trains eyes on future talent

By David Hands, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ALL season, Jack Rowell, the manager of the England rug-by union team, has bemoaned the lack of young talent worthy of consideration for his national squad. Yesterday, he did something about it, by calling a teenager from his school books in Yorkshire to join training this weekend in preparation for the five nations' championship match against Wales on February 3.

Paul Samoson, from Woodhouse Grove School, near Bradford, will not play at Twickenham, but the mere fact that he will mingle with Underwood, faces familiar only from the television screen, confirms the moodswing in the management. This season, the squad has already been decorated by the youthful looks of Andy Gomarsall, 21. Now he is joined by Alex King, 20, and Sampson, a mere 18.

This is all part of the familiarisation programme that Rowell, in concert with John Elliott, the Rugby Football Union's development officer, seeks to put in place. The ambition is to bring on young talent and introduce it to the international environment, at times despite the leading clubs, whose selections tend towards the conservative.

Rowell has been envious that France could introduce 20-year-olds, Thomas Castaignéde and the contro-Richard Dourthe, against, of all opponents, New Zealand last autumn. Austra-

lia's ability to produce young stars — Tim Horan and Jason Little were 19 when they made their international debuts - is also well-documented, Last week, Wales gave Leigh Da-vies, 19, his head against Italy, and another 19-year-old, Jo-nah Lomu, played for the All Blacks against France In 1994.

There is an excitement in reaching so far down the supply chain," Rowell said. "The hope is that, when Sampson develops and returns to the international squad, he will not be overawed. England are always looking for young players with potential. The

Richard Dourthe, the France centre, has been banned by the French Rugby Federation for two five nations' championship matches for stamping on England No 8, during the game in Paris last weekend.

challenge is there for the many good club players around England: are you good enough to play international rugby successfully?"

players added to the squad beaten 15-12 by France in Paris last weekend and earns his place thanks to his six appearances last season in the England 18-group schools team and glowing reports from Nigel Melville, his mentor at Otley, where he plays his

rugby out of term.
"He not only has excellent

1 Primitive (type of man)

9 Document confirming

16 Taker of pictures (6)

20 One from Helsinki (4)

19 Astound (5)

2 Chinese black/white animal

No 687 in association with

BRITISH MIDLAND

pace but he has good vision, can tackle superbly and placeplayer," Melville, himself a teenager in the England squad of 1979, said. "We've been playing him on the wing to give him a bit of experience, but I think it is full back which will allow him to have more Sampson started the 1995 representative schools season at full back and finished on the

right wing. As a wing, he occupies a position where season: Rory Underwood, at 32, is nearing the end of a distinguished career, his brother, Tony, is recovering from a knee operation, and Damian Hopley — a centre — was pressed into service on the wing before the advent last

Saturday of Jon Sleightholme. Rory Underwood, in 1984, and Kevin Simms, a formight after his twentieth birthday in 1985, have been England's

youngest caps of late.

I'm delighted they have recognised it can be a young man's game," Geoff Wappett. said. "One of the things which came out loud and clear from last year's World Cup was that there are opportunities for young men, and we are no different to any of the others. Some of our young men can

The management spent the best part of four hours analysing video of the defeat by France before settling on their training squad and the A XV to play New South Wales at Leicester on January 31. All members of the match party of 21 in Paris are retained, while five of the backs who contribthe A international with France, plus Tony Diprose of the forwards, are added.

the forwards, are added.

BNEAND TRAINING SCIMIT Itselet J
Calised Bath, M Cati (Bath). A Adebayo
(Bath). J Steightholme (Bath). D Hopley
(Waspis). P Sampsion (Duly). R Underwood (Lincester). W Carting (Hinterpural.)
P de Glanville (Bath). W Greenwood
(Hartepuna). J Guscott (Bath). P Greyson
(Northampton). A King (Bristol University).
K Bracklen (Bristol). W Dawes (Bath). P Greyson
(Northampton). A King (Bristol University).
K Bracklen (Bristol). W Dawes (Bath). M Regen
(Girstol). M Bayfield (Northampton). M Waspis,
P (J University). D Clarke (Bath). T
Rodder (Northampton). B Clarke (Bath). T
Rodder (Northampton). B Clarke (Bath). T
Rodder (Saracera). D Richards
(Lecaster).

ENGLAND A (v New South Wales). T

(Locastal). BNGLAND A (v. New South Wales). T Stimpson (West Hartlepool): P Hot (Bra-tol). A Blyth (West Hartlepool). W Green-tol). A Blyth (West Hartlepool). W Green-tol). A Blyth (West Hartlepool). W Green-tol). A Blyth (West Hartlepool). W Green-Restol). D Garloth Locaster). M Conty (Bristol). G Green (Brictol). J Fowler (Sale., H. Hill. (Suracors). A Depotes (Sale., Leptan). Replacements: P Mensah (Hartle-quirch. R. Liley. (Salet). P Greening (Wapps). K Yates (Bath). P Greening (Gloucetter). C Sheeniby (Hartlequiris).

Agassi hits a powerful backhand return during his dramatic five-set victory over Courier yesterday. Photograph: Julian Herbert

Resolute Agassi proves irresistible

TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

THE elements played tricks throughout the longest of quarter-final days at the Australian Open. A violent wind blew through the first match, a storm erupted midway through the second and the last three had to be staged indoors under the sliding roof. To cope with the conditions, serenity and conviction were required. Some were not up to the task.

Martina Hingis has yet to develop such qualities. Conchita Martinez will find any excuse. Yevgeny Kafelnikov was never mentally atuned. Nor was Thomas Enqvist. Of the losers, therefore, only Jim Courier was properly equipped, but he ran into a tempest of such force that he could not resist it.

Courier, twice a champion here, not only took the opening two sets, as he had at the same stage against Pete Sampras a year ago, but was also a break up at the start of the third. He had forced Andre Agassi into a

which restored him to No 1 in the world ranking, may not have been "a miracle" as he claimed, but it qualified as extraordinary. He gathered such momentum during his first ever recovery from a twoset deficit that Courier was on the verge of yielding the fifth to

"I don't think he has ever come on that strongly," Couri-I've played in the tournament." Better, in other words, than his own revivals against Todd Woodbridge and Marcos Ondruska, both of whom had been 2-1 ahead in sets in

the previous two rounds. Agassi's 6-7, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 victory means that he has now come from behind four times. He has played well in patches and, even if the closing three sets against Courier were adorned in a richest purple, it is as though he has been motivated only by the revela-tion that his title has been

about to be taken from him. He is unlikely to be short of inspiration in the semi-final. He faces Michael Chang, whom he has witheringly dismissed as a player who

injured, he joined his American colleagues in Moscow for the Davis Cup final last month. The absent Chang was lambasted. "He hasn't played since 1990," Agassi said. "That shows his level of interest. Everybody else is committed

Courier would not be drawn into the domestic, one-sided

Flinders Park results 39

verbal warfare. However, he did suggest that Agassi, a rival he had beaten every time since the French Open final of 1991. holds the edge in spite of the conspicuous ease which with Chang has progressed. He has yet to drop a set, but "he hasn't played anybody of Andre's calibre and, the way Andre's hitting the ball, he [Chang] is going to have to play very, very well to beat him."

Kaleinikov looked even fur ther and predicted that, as long as the event stays indoors. Boris Becker will regain the title he held five years ago. However, Kafelnikov's prophesies should be regard-

ed as dubious. After the fourth round, he forecast that he, himself, would be the champi-on, a notion ridiculed by Becker on court and derided off it. Nor was that the immature Russian's only offering adjudged to have been ill-considered.

His reaction to a favourable cail, which gave him a 5-1 lead in the second set tie-break, was to blow a kiss to the line judge, Becker observed. As retribution, Kafelnikov was allowed a

mere six points in the first five games of the third set. Becker rated his performance as one of his top three in Australia. He struck 28 aces, but Mark Woodforde, his opponent in the semifinals, the first home represen-

tative in the last four since Pat

Cash in 1988, has been

advantage the power of opponents such as Mark Philippoussis and the flustered Engvist.

Martinez lost her footing shortly after the roof had been closed and scraped the skin off her racket hand: inexplicably, she did not seek treatment until she had conceded the second set to Anke Huber and effectively the match by dropping the first three games of

The comparatively inexperienced Hingis earlier lost patience with the ceaseless retrieving of the diminutive Amanda Coetzer and with the swirling wind. The 15-year-old was plainly unaware of the common saying here. If you don't like the weather in Melbourne, stick around for five minutes."

position where, as he later reflected, he "didn't have too many options". "runs for a living". Nor was he

MATCH of the Day should 3 Less polluting type of petrol substitute Delia Smith and 4 Give latest information (6) Keith Floyd for Gary Lineker 5 Cooperating group (4) and Alan Hansen on Satur- With one leg on each side day. The Valley, home of Charlton Athletic, will be awash with dairy products as the cheese-bearing hordes of Brentford descend upon that 12 Coastal promenade (8) 14 Corrosive: sarcastic (7) corner of south London for their team's FA Cup fourthround tie.

Members of the Brentford Official Unofficial Supporters' Posse have hired a boat to carry their 80-strong party and their stash of edam. stilton and Dairylea -- plus crackers - from Kew Pier to the Thames Barrier. They will gorge on cheddar and binge on gouda en route, during the match and afterwards as part of their anticipated celebra-

One particularly ardent follower has constructed eight 3ft high hats, including a beret depicting two crackers with a cheese filling and a cap featuring a mouse nibbling at

There is a proud tradition of bearing bizarre objects to football stadiums. The first rattle was no doubt scoffed at and it took only a few weeks for the inflatable banana to become passé. And who could forget Grimsby Town's bouncing haddock? However,

Insurance League second division, discovered the power of cheese in December, when they played Bournemouth in the FA Cup first round. When a Tom Jones record came on the jukebox, one supporter stood up and called it "cheesy". The chant "cheese, cheese, cheese" took over the establishment and the landlady showed her gratitude by presenting them with an enor-

mous platter of cheeses. "It started as a joke and then we won — a clear omen. So at the following Cup game at Norwich, everyone spontaneously brought along cheese Anyone captivated, or just

supporter, when asked what cheese she would be taking, replied: "I'm not sure yet, I'll have to meet with Billy."

cheese-and-wine party.

Newcastle close in on **Asprilla** KEVIN KEEGAN, the New

castle United manager, re-turned from Italy last night confident that he had finally concluded negotiations to bring Faustino Asprilla to the club (David Maddock writes) Keegan had been involved in protracted talks over the pay ment structure of the Colombia international's contract.

Asprilla, the Parma for ward, wanted half of the money up-front, instead of over the course of the four year deal. He is thought to have negotiated a signing-on fee in the region of £2 million. in addition to wages of around £15,000 a week. After talks lasting two days, Keegan finally agreed a transfer that will cost Newcastle a total of 66.7 million, inclusive of the signing-on fee. Asprilla will

receive £1.2 million a year. The player however, has yet to sign the contract and has said he will stay with Parma until the end of the month. It is thought that the delay is because he wants to negotiate a settlement with Parma.

Asprilla said: "I'm about to start on a fascinating adventure and I'm going happily. Parma don't want me while Kevin Keegan has shown great interest. Newcastle will be a breath of fresh air."

D-NOTICE

New D-Class UNIX servers from Hewlett-Packard.

New level of price/performance.

Very robust with hot-olug disks. atto-restart, modem for remote servicing.

Immediately available. (A first in the computer industry?)

Call for a written briefing.

0181-232 8000 Fax 0181-232 8200

THE WINNER will receive a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on British Midland's domestic or international network.
THE RUNNER-UP will receive a return ticket to anywhere on British Midland's domestic network. British Midland offers an extensive range of departure and destination points throughout the UK as well as Europe. As the UKs second largest scheduled service airline and Heathrows second biggest user. It operates a fleet of 35 aircraft on over 1200 flights per week throughout the UK and Europe. All flights are subject to availability.

Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886. London E28SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

ACROSS

1 Perfection: furthest point

10 Decorated with glittering

18 As flag flies out of respect

21 Open framework, crossed

22 Nebraska city: Normandy

23 Vision-corrector worm in eye

WW2 beach (5)

(Lat.)(2.4.5)Account of the year (5)

gems (8) 11 Artful lure (4)

Wealth (6)

17 Lug, drag (4)

strips (7)

8 Harsh, extreme (7)

15 Plain; rigorous; 8 (6)

ACROSS: 1 Old hat 5 Chef 9 Genuine 10 At home 11 Radiator 12 Busket 15 Sample 18 Disclaim 20 Fossil 22 Electra 23 Kink

DOWN: 2 Logjam 3 Handicap 4 Twist 6 Hush 7 Flambe 8 Nearby 13 Steleton 14 Medley 16 Anorak 17 Mirage 19 Shell 21 Span



Brentford have always been

at the cutting edge.
Cadbury's Chomp bars
were banned from Griffin Park after thousands were thrown on to the pitch after a rare league victory three sea-sons ago. Taking a barge to a match is nothing new, either - at least not for Brentford followers. Billy Grant has been organising alternative travel to away fixtures for the past six years. His most ambitious project was a magical mystery tour, where the

surprise factor was diluted for anyone who had read Brentford's fixture-list and saw they were playing at Stoke City. Brentford, of the Endsleigh You must be the Brentford fans

a chunk of Gruyère.

and crackers," Grant said. feeling peckish and wanting to join in, cannot simply raid their fridge. This is an organised campaign. One

"We are a politically-correct group. There will be no French cheese at the Charlton match. It will be Somerset Brie and we will try not to litter the river," Grant said. And what if Brentford reach Wembley? The ultimate prize in English football would undoubtedly be celebrated in west London with a

Gradi's goal, page 40 Venables prepares, page 40

Kohl and unions set goal of 2m more jobs FROM ROGER BOYES GERMANY'S Government. trade unions and employers

vowed yesterday to work together to cut by half the number of unemployed over the next four years.

The blueprint was drawn up after four hours of negotia-

tions under the chairmanship of Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and sets out measures that would make the labour market more flexible, cut social welfare spending and spur new entrepreneurs.
All sides, while acknowledg-

ing the problems ahead, hailed the plan as an important first step. "Now things can really get going," said Dieter Schulte, the union federation leader. "We are agreed on the basic goal of halving unemployment by 2000."

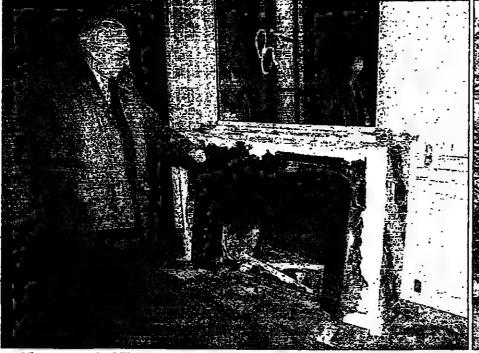
Registered unemployment stands at close to four million, so the commitment is to create two million jobs. Günter Rexrodt, the Economics Minister, was more cautious, saying that they "had laid out principles upon which we can work to form a consensus and create better conditions for increasing employment".

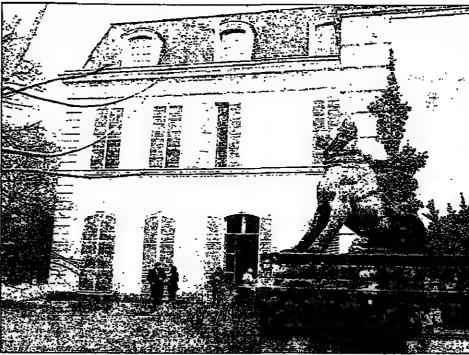
Crimes in

There is no consensus on a number of crucial issues. The unions are resisting changes to the early retirement programme, which is proving costly to the Government. Moreover, their offer of wage restraint may not come into effect until next year.

Employers want value-added tax to be raised to ease the burden of social welfare contributions. But Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, is against the idea. So is the opposition Social Democratic Party. Its chairman, Oskar Lafontaine, who was not invited to the talks, described raising VAT as "poison to the economy".

Economists, analysing forecasts and company plans, predict German growth will rise above 2 per cent in 1997 but unemployment will stay high at 9.6 per cent of the workforce this year, and 9.4 per cent in 1997.





Vincent Beguin Billecocq, left, a former tenant, in front of a stripped-out fireplace at the château of Mme du Barry, in Louveciennes, outside Paris; right, the exterior

Woman held over 'stripped' French properties



Yokoi: three years in Japanese jail

FROM SUSAN BELL

KIKO NAKAHARA, a British resident and the daughter of a Japanese business magnate, has been arrested by French police and charged with forgery and breach of trust after allegedly buying 15 historic properties in Europe and stripping them of their

contents for personal gain. Between 1985 and 1989, Ms Nakahara, who is said to have represented herself as a protector of French heritage, allegedly bought eight châteaux in France, spending almost 100 million francs (£13 million). During the same period she apparently bought seven other European castles, mainly in Britain and Spain.

She and her husband are accused of stripping the French properties of their contents, including priceless

antique furniture, tapestries and statues, and selling them. It is thought some of the items may have been sold in London. The couple allegedly even ripped out 16th-century fireplaces and original wood panelling. The empty châteaux were then allegedly Although she barely speaks a word

of French, Ms Nakahara was allegedly extremely convincing in her selfacclaimed role as the Japanese saviour of French heritage. Immaculately dressed, she was described as "refined", "charming" and "very well brought-up" by former owners who were allegedly persuaded that Ms Nakahara would cherish and preserve the family homes that they could no longer afford.

Ms Nakahara was allegedly aided by her husband, Jean-Claude Perez-Vaneste, 49, an international business-

man, who prefers to be known as Jean-Paul Renoir. He allegedly accompanied his wife on her buying trips to France, acting as a translator. Former owners recall that he was adept at negotiating a good price, mentioning projects to turn the castles into museums, hotels, or upmarket tourist

One of 17 children, Ms Nakahara is the favourite daughter of Hideki Yokoi, an octogenarian Japanese millionaire who bought the Empire State Building in the late 1980s and whose business empire, Nippon Sangyo. specialises in construction, transport, bars and casinos. Mr Yokoi is serving a three-year prison sentence in Tokyo for manslaughter and fraud, after a fire in one of his hotels in which 33 people died. The tragedy was attributed to a lack of standard safety

French police have sought to question the couple about the châteaux affair since 1992. However, they found their investigation blocked by long legal battles with Nippon Sangyo's powerful lawvers. However, when M Perez-Vaneste

created the company Châteaux Hold-ings in 1995 with the assumed motive of selling the properties, Nippon Sangyo complained that the couple planned to sell the Japanese company's assets for their own profit and a warrant was issued for their arrest.

M Renoir was not with Ms Nakahara when she was arrested last Friday during an appointment with a property adviser set up by fraud police. He was still being sought by police yesterday. Ms Nakahara is now being held by the French authorities in a women's prison near the château of Versailles.

Poland's PM quits over spy claims

BY ROGER BOYES

JOZEF OLEKSY, the Polish Prime Minister, announced his resignation last night after the military prosecutor said there was enough evidence to investigate the former Communist on charges of spying for the KGB.

'In the name of reasons of state, I have decided to re-sign," Mr Oleksy said on Polish television. But he firmly reiterated he is innocent.

The decision has plunged Poland into its worst political crisis since the collapse of Communism. It puts a ques-tion mark over the future of the whole Government, dominated by former Communists. and over Poland's relationship

The military prosecutor said yesterday that he would be investigating the role of two former Russian diplomats based in Warsaw — Vladimir Alganov and Grigori Yak-imishin. Mr Oleksy had been accused by Polish police offi-cers of passing documents to his long-time next-door neighbour, a KGB colonel. The Prime Minister had denied espionage, but admits enjoy-ing a friendship with the agent, saying he took him to be an innocent diplomat.

He had promised to resign if the prosecutor pressed charges or opened a case against him.

The mere fact of his friendship with a senior KGB agent they went hunting and played tennis together — was enough to jeopardise his career for many Poles. It is now unthinkable Mr Oleksy will, as planned, succeed President Kwasniewski as chair-

man of the party.
Opposition parties, with the Freedom Union to the fore, are demanding that a new government be put together to restore Poland's world credibility.

The pivotal role is being played by the Polish Peasant Party, which represents the farm lobby. It is in alliance with Mr Oleksy's former Communists, but could make common cause with the

Banned Mitterrand book on Internet

BY SUSAN BELL

COMPUTER buffs can now read the banned book about François Mitterrand, The Big Secret, by the late French President's doctor, but only on the Internet.

The police said yesterday that they had paid an informal visit to Le Web, the trendy

French town of Besançon whose owner, Pascai Barbraud, put the forbidden book on the internationally accessible Internet. A police inspector said the visit was not part of legal proceedings.
The lawyers I have contact-

ed confirmed the legal loophole which surrounds access to the Internet," M Barbraud said. "In any case I am not

selling anything." The book's publisher, Editions Plon, which opposed the move to put the book on the Internet. has taken no action. Copies of the book sold out

within two hours when it appeared in French bookshops last Wednesday. The next day it was banned after a request from the Mitterrand family, including his widow

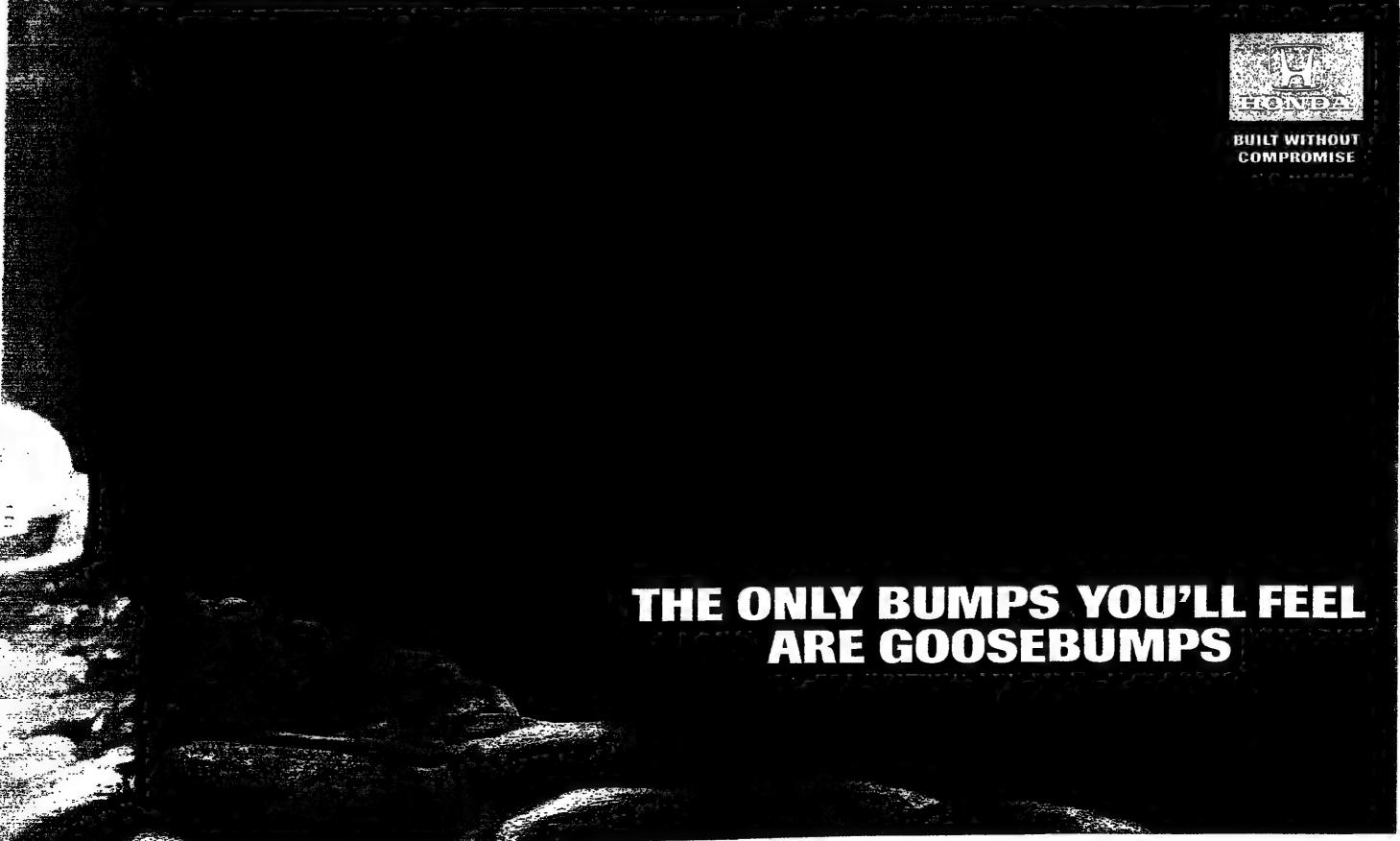
Danielle and his illegitimate daughter. Stunned by the ban, M Barbraud transcribed into his Internet site late on Tuesday the entire 190-page book by Dr Claude Gubler, the late President's physician. who claims that the former President, who died of prostate cancer on January 8, lied to the French public for 11 years about his health.

Naples fire kills nine Nanles: The death toll from a men said. Water pipes explod-

fire, which erupted in a Naples suburb overnight, rose to nine yesterday. The dead included five construction workers working on a slip road linking the peripheral district of Scondigliano with the city, and a young girl.

The fire triggered blasts, which sent a cement-mixer and dozens of cars hurtling into a crater about 66ft, fireed after the collapse of a building, and the crater was filled with water. Residents of the collapsed building said they had repeatedly complained to authorities

that the building was in danger of collapse. Panic broke when authorities evacuated about a thousand people from their homes, fearing further explosions. (AFP)



One to prevent the drivers making too many pit-stops for refuelling. Which means you too will be making less pit-stops. But what about the bumps that there are no accounting for? crumple zones, side impact bars and dual SRS airbags add a feeling of safety to that of exhilaration.

Also as standard on all Civics are power steering and ECU immobiliser, so there are no surprise optional extras to bump up the price. Talking of options, the Civic also comes in the form of

an equally spine-tingling 3, 4 and 5 door. So if you'd like to find out more, just call into your nearest Honda dealer, or phone Honda UK on 0345 159 159.

With the new Honda Civic range starting at just £11,585 on the road, you could almost be forgiven for thinking it was your

birthday. (Minus the bumps of course.) THE NEW CIVIC COUPE FROM HONDA.

That's where a fully integrated rigid body shell, front and rear for the Card 3 door1 & produces £450 charge for delivery and number plates and £140 for 12 months' road fund hoence. Prices correct at time of going to press

Utah execution may end use of firing squads

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN BLUFFDALE, UTAH

TWO minutes after midnight tonight, John Albert Taylor is due to be strapped to a chair in a converted warehouse beneath Utah's Wasatch Mountains and shot through the heart by five anonymous

He will eat pizza for his final meal and be allowed a cigarette as he walks to the execution chamber. As a black hood is pulled over his face Taylor, who was convicted seven years ago of raping and murdering an II-year-old girl, will have the grim satisfaction of knowing his death may end the use of firing squads in

The last American prisoner to die this way was the first to be executed after the Supreme Court allowed the reintroduction of the death penalty in 1977. Gary Gilmore, another convicted murderer, was shot at dawn in the same state prison on January 21 that year. A law is being drafted that would end Utah's distinction as the only state to give death row inmates a choice between lethal injection and the firing squad. The law's sponsor, Sheryl Allan, is anxious that the world should look on Utah "positively, as a progressive state", as it celebrates its centenary and prepares to host the 2002 Winter Olym-

chair, death penalty opponents have descended on Salt Lake City to find local opinion largely against them and a prisoner determined to die.

Taylor, 36, has admitted breaking into the house where Charla King lived until 1989, but denies killing her even though his fingerprints were found near her body. Last month he dismissed his lawyers, dropped all appeals and demanded to be shot so as not to "flop around like a dving fish" under a lethal injection. The move sent officials at the



pics. But as prison guards Utah Department of Correc-stack sandbags behind the tions scrambling to improvise the building of a firing range and the recruitment of live

> A disused warehouse in the main state prison 25 miles south of Salt Lake City has been equipped with one-way mirrors for observers and plywood partitions for the firing squad. Officials were deluged with offers from marksmen, including a letter signed by an entire US Army platoon stationed at Fort

Bragg, North Carolina. The firing squad will consist of local police volunteers. One rifle will be loaded with blanks. Yesterday they prac-tised firing in unison on command. The gunmen appear to have the support of most of this deeply conserva-

Taylor's decision has nevertheless proved awkward for the Mormon Church, which dominates Utah life. Criminologists have speculated that behind his sudden demand for a firing squad is an ancient Mormon belief in "blood atonement", without which church members who have sinned cannot be forgiven nor rise through the many levels of heaven in the afterlife. Church elders have denied strongly that blood atonement is a part

Blu

Ends Sunday 28th

January in most stores

See below for further details*

A FURTHER

selected sale prices

Childrenswear, Accessories,

THE DIFFERENCE IS

DEBENHAMS

Prices return to normal on Monday 29th January 1996.

Menswear and Home

Womenswear,

Aberdeen, Belfast, Bolton, Bournemouth, Bristol, Bromley, Cambridge, Canterbury, Cardiff, Chelmsford, Cheltenham,

Harrow, Hull, Ipswich, Lakeside, Leicester, Leeds, Manchester, Meadowhall, Middlesbrough, Norwich, Norwigham,

Oldham, Oxford Street, Oxford, Plymouth, Preston, Reading, Romford, Sheffield, Southampton, Southerd

Chester, Colchester, Croydon, Derby, Dudley, Eastbourne, Edinburgh, Exeter, Follostone, Glasgow, Gloucester, Guildford,

MOST OFFERS AVAILABLE IN ALL DEBENHAMS DEPARTMENT STORES INCLUDING BROWNS OF CHESTER.

STOCK SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

LAST 4 DAYS

of their theology, and have pointed out that Taylor recentconverted to Catholicism. He has been a Mormon for most of his life, however.

Taylor's death warrant has been signed, and only a federal appeal from the prisoner can prevent his execution. He has vowed to make no further appeals, but human rights lawyers are petitioning state politicians and holding a series of press conferences and vigils in an attempt to prevent what they see as a barbaric step. A firing squad "lays bare the brutality of capital punishment", Joe Baker, of Amnesty International, said.

Charla King's mother echa nation that has seldom been less tolerant of violent crime. "I don't want his execution." she said on national television on Tuesday. "I need it."

☐ Jarratt, Virginia: Richard

Townes, 45, who maintained his innocence to the end, was executed by injection for the 1985 robbery and murder of a 22-year-old woman shop assistant. "I'm innocent. That's all I have to say. I'm innocent," he said in a last statement. Witnesses said the execution was delayed 22 minutes because of difficulties in finding suitable veins for the injection. (Reuter)

The Original



Timu, a female gorilla conceived in a test tube, with Dawn Strasser, keeper of Cincinnati Zoo nursery. The animal, born last October, is the newest member of the American 200's gorilla family and went on show for the first time on Tuesday

Pacific braces for millennium storm over matter of degrees

FROM QUENTIN LETTS

PACIFIC islanders are squab-bling over the International Dateline. They cannot agree which far-flung piece of land will be first to see the sunries of the next millennium.

involved the United Nations, the Royal Greenwich Observamry and much flering of beachside palm trees, might not have happened but for entrepreneurial schemes for New Year's Eve, 1999. Travel agents have detected a market for "we were first to see inthe new-millennium" parties and are scouring the Pacific for the first landfall west of the

rill make a fortune The search has been complicated by the decision of some islanders to "move" the dateline. The tiny nation of Kiriban, formerly the Gilbert, Phoenix and Line island groups, has angered its Pacific neighbours by moving part of

the line to its eastern extremity. Caroline Island. The little-

and solved the problems which beset Kiribati when it was split by the dateline. It was, formerly, a bold man who used the word "today" in Kiribatian society. Nearby Tonga, which was happily expecting to be venue for the lucrative parties, thinks that Kirihati has willed a fast

noticed move was a key item in the 1993 political manifesto.

of President Te baroro Tito

that Kiribati has pulled a fast one. The King of Tonga is not happy. The international Dateline Hotel in the Tongan

faces an unwanted name change, it may also lose the bookings it has taken for the turn of the millennium. There is similar dismay in the Chat-ham Islands, and on New Zealand's North Island, where the town of Gisborne was limbering up for the big night the line it is the first place with good bars. Gisborne District Council was planning a party atop a mountain which has early views of the sunrise.

As a result of the presiden-tial manoeuvre, however, Kiribati will now see the millennium's dawn 22 minutes before the Chathams, and a humiliating 80 minutes be-The Royal Greenwich Ob

servatory and cartographers have accepted Kiribati's line change, and appeals to the United Nations have met with the response that the dateline. decided by an international conference in 1884, is beyond its control.

Britain asks Asia for more UN cash

FROM JAMES BONE

WITH the United Nations facing financial collapse, Britain unveiled a proposal yesterday that would make emerging economic powers in Asia

ing economic powers in Asia and Latin America pay a bigger share of the organisation's costs.

The British plan, which has the backing of the whole European Union, aims to save the UN from a looming bankruptcy caused by the refusal of the United States to pay its full share of peacekeeping costs. share of peacekeeping costs.

To the fury of other UN

members, the US Congress has unilaterally cut America's peacekeeping contribution from 31 per cent of the total to 25 per cent — the same as it pays to the general UN budget.

sudget.
UN officials predict that the organisation will run out of cash some time in April and will have to start borrowing again from peacekeeping funds, which are meant to be distributed to countries that send troops on UN duty

The British plan calls for a change in the scale of assessments that fixes each country's UN contribution according to its gross national product. The proposal cuts the UN contri-bution of about 120 of its 185 members, ensuring it will receive widespread support. Russia, for instance, would

see its 1997 UN dues fall from 4.27 per cent to 1.96 per cent to reflect its economic decline. Its peacekeeping contribution would go from 5.3 per cent to

President Cu

ommit (111) 🛰

2.26 per cent.

America would continue to pay 25 per cent of the regular UN budget, but its peacekeeping dues would fall from about

31 per cent to 28.75 per cent.
Japan would find its UN
contribution rising from
15.65 per cent to 17.77 per cent. Emerging economies, such as those of China, Singapore, Thailand, Mexico, Chile and Argentina, would also have a sharp increase in UN dues.

Britain's contribution to the UN regular budget would shrink slightly from 5.32 per cent to 5.29 per cent, with its peacekeeping dues falling from 6.6 per cent to 6.08 per-cent. With Britain now paying about \$250 million a year in UN dues the proposed changes could be expected to save the British taxpayer about \$1 million a year.

British officials hope the plan will help to break the between America and the UN by starting a negotiation or reducing the level of Washington's dues.

The debate is likely to culminate in the summer with a the UN General Assembly discussing a deal twinning financial changes with costcutting reforms.

Soldier sacked for refusing **UN duty**

FROM TOM RHODES

A HERO to many in the American heartland, Michael New was dismissed yesterday in disgrace by the United States Army after refusing to serve under any flag other

than his own. Specialist New, 22, an army medic based in Germany, is the first American serviceman to be court-martialled for failing to wear United Nations insignia on his uniform and accept a posting to Macedonia last year under UN command.

New — who has been busy bolstering the Republican presidential campaign of the commentator Pat Buchanan has staunchly refused to change his position since the unit was dispatched to the Serbian border. He now faces a maximum of six months in prison, a dishonourable dis-

charge and a loss of pay.

The tribunal at Leighton Army Barracks in Wurzburg took only two days to find him guilty of disobeying an order. His act of resistance has been the staple diet of talk shows and, although largely ignored by the mainstream, the case has made headlines in small papers and conservative newsletters throughout America. Supporters have printed "Michael New For President" stickers, and militia leaders celebrate his name as they

burn the UN flag. On the campaign trail, Mr Buchanan has gained overwhelming applause for citing New as an example of an individual lighting the terrors of world government.

'Unbeatable' Nokia. **Unbelievable Sale Price!**

price to bring you this unrepeatable lamuary sale bargain.

The fabulous, feature packed Notice 232. Past winner of the coveted "What Cellphone" Best Consumer Phone Award, achieving a maximum rating in every performance category, including value for money.

Simply phone us with your credit card details to receive your phone within 4 working days.





LIMITED OFFER NOKIA 232

NOKIA MODEL 232

 98 mane/aumber memory • 70 mins talk-time • 16 hrs standby-time Complete with battery and fast travel charger 4 Lightweight 210g

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND Your phone is covered by our 14 days no quibble money back promise.



ORDER NOW FOR FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS

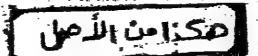
terd arisons contract for each phone with Caliphones Direct Url 185 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond Lower and applications and applications and applications and applications and applications and applications are applications.



*Open Sunday 28th January in stores listed below

Southsea, Stockport, Swansea, Swindon, Taunton, Telford, Walsall, Wimbledon.





State of the Union speech praises 'a wonderful wife, magnificent mother and great First Lady'

Clinton claims the centre ground to upset Republicans

DISGRUNTLED Republicans accused President Clinton of purloining their best issues yesterday as opinion polls and pundits agreed he had won the first big battle of the 1996 election with a mas-terful State of the Union speech on Tuesday night.

Nearly half the country watched on television as Mr Clinton used his hour-long address to Congress to seize the centre ground, blur his ideological differences with the Republicans and distance himself from Democratic orthodoxies. He twice declared: The era of big government is

Robert Dole. Mr Clinton's probable opponent this Nov-ember, selected himself to deliver his party's formal response. He used it to reinforce his shaky credentials as a conservative "revolutionary" and highlight the very ideological differences Mr Clinton

sought to minimise.
"We have starkly different philosophies of government and profoundly different visions of America," the 72-yearold Senate leader insisted. Mr Clinton believed in "more government, bigger govern-ment and more meddlesome

the last public defender of a discredited status quo". Most agreed that Mr Clinton won this inaugural encounter. Even some Republicans criticised Mr Dole's

unconvincing delivery. "President Clinton can fake a compelling vision while Senator Dole is too decent to try to fake a vision he clearly does not have," said Lamar Alexander, a rival for the presidential nomination. Pat

Clinton: "The era of big

Buchanan, another rival, said: "To beat this guy we had better have an authentic con-

Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, conceded it was "the President's night" but accused Mr Clinton of "talking like Ronald Reagan" while "governing like Lyndon Johnson". President Johnson was the architect of the "Great Society" programmes that Republicans now seek to dismantle.

A CBS television poll

showed 69 per cent approval of Mr Clinton's speech, and by 49 per cent to 34 per cent, respondents said that the President understood their needs best. An ABC television poll gave the speech a 75 per cent approval rating with 51 per cent preferring Mr Clinton's vision and 28 per cent backing the Republicans. State of the Union addresses

always make compelling the-atre, and this began with Mr Clinton handing Mr Gingrich a spoof text of his speech, reading: Thank you, and good night." That was what Mr Gingrich had earlier told reporters he wanted to hear. But the emotional high point came when the President



Hillary and Chelsea Clinton watch the arrival of President Clinton in the House Chamber on Capitol Hill to deliver his State of the Union address

naed to appear before a Whitewater grand jury tomorrow. Departing from his text, he looked up to the gallery and called her "a wonderful wife, a magnificent mother and a great First Lady". Democrats cheered. Republicans stayed mostly silent — the presence of Chelsea Clinton, the Clintons'

daughter, perhaps deterring stronger signs of disapproval. Mr Clinton's speech was a

posed as a conciliator, praisbrilliant exercise in political positioning. Seeking to deny the Republicans' potent ing the Republicans for the "determination" with which they were hattling to balance wedge" issues in November, he embraced their broad the budget. The Republicans themes of smaller governrefused to join the applause ment, personal responsibility. when he insisted a deal was in welfare reform, family values. reach, reinforcing their image of rigid ideologues. law and order, and curbs on illegal immigration.

With the public disgusted at Washington's endless parti-san wrangling, Mr Clinton

programmes, demanding political reform to curb the influence of big money, and vowing to protect health insurance programmes for the poor. Mr Dole's reply seemed

can primary voters. Despite 35 years in Washington, he blast-Mr Clinton took stands only ed "the elites in charge [who] where he was sure of public don't believe what the people support, condemning Republibelieve in", claimed America had been "hijacked by libercan cuts in environmental

als", and defended the Religious Right. He laid out his presidential

platform, saying "we must rein in our runaway Government, return power to the people, reduce the tax burden directed primarily at Republirestore justice and put faith once again in the basic goodness, widsom and self-reliance of our people".

Leading article, page 19

President calls Hollywood summit on screen violence

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

FRESIDENT CLINTON has called a Hollywood summit at the White House to improve the moral content of Amerientertainment, thus wresting one of the most popular Republican themes from his opponents in

In his State of the Union speech, Mr Clinton said he would invite film and television producers, as well as those involved in the music industry, to meet in Washington next month and create a Hollywood free of violence and acceptable to young

America. "I want media companies to create movies, CDs and television shows you would want your own children and grandchildren to enjoy," he said. "I want them to work with us on concrete ways to improve what our children see on television."

In a deliberate attempt to steal the thunder from Robert Dole, the Republican currently Mr Clinton's chief rival for the presidency this year, the President gained an immediate response from senior executives at broadcast networks who said they could not turn

down such an opportunity.

Last year Mr Dole launched a fierce attack on the moral fabric of Hollywood. which he said had shrouded America in nightmares of deprayity, violence and sex. "A line has been crossed." Mr Dole said at a fundraising address in Los Angeles. "It is crossed every time sexual violence is given a catchy tune; when teen suicide is set to an appealing beat; when turn out

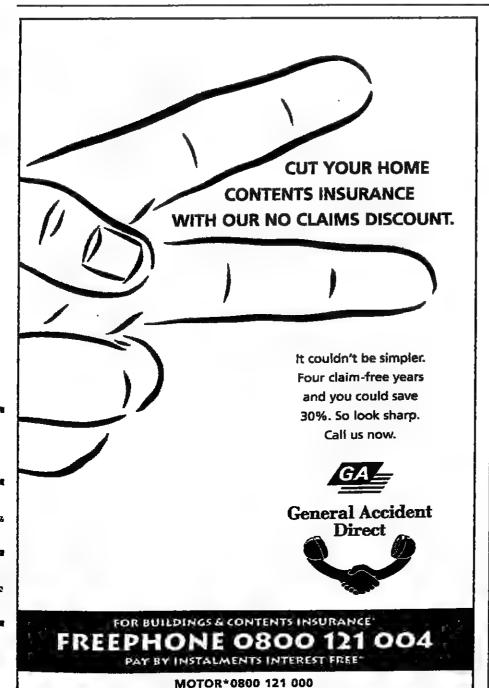
Citing the films Natural Born Killers and True Romance, as well as the music of Cannibal Corpse, Geto Boys and 2 Live Crew for their denictions of mindless violence and loveless sex. Mr Dole had made particular mention of the conglomerate Time Warner for its distribu-

tion of gangsta rap music. The company has long been target of attack from the Right for its production several years ago of the album Cop Killer, a violent rap against the police force by the

black artist, Ice T. Mr Clinton's campaign both in 1992 and this year is well supported by the liberal establishment in Hollywood. The President, who counts Barbra Streisand and Steven Spielberg as close personal friends, is likely to gain far greater support.

But TV executives were success of the meeting. One said: "Of course, we'll take him up on his offer. How can you ever turn down an opportunity to discuss an important issue with the President. But say we reach an accommodation with Bill Clinton, would that ever be enough for Bob





REDUNDANCY & SICKNESS 0800 121 008 - TRAVEL 0800 121 007 Weekdays 8am – 8pm, 5at 9am - 2pm. 🔼 🚾 *Written details on request. General Accident Direct, FREEPOST, Hamilton ML3 1BR.

How do you squeeze all the benefits of desktop computing into a handy mobile? The answer lies in our extraordinary range of Pentium. Processor powered Latitude notebooks. With speeds up to 120MHz and removable hard drives up to 1.2Gb they come packed with the very latest technology. Our screens are bigger and brighter than ever and we offer inclustry

leading battery technology and advanced power management giving you even greater flexibility. So it's all the plus points of a desktop minus the desk. With Lamude prices starting at just £1.999 (£2.378.20 incl. VAT and delivery) isn't it

time you squeezed one ita? Call us for details on 01344 724777



Beating back pain

MEDICAL

BRIEFING

Dr Thomas

Stuttaford

NEIL SUMMERS had been commissioned in the Royal Marines and was looking forward to life as a regular officer when his career was cut short by ankylosing spondylitis.

Ankylosing spondylitis is an inflammatory disease which attacks the joints of the spine, the sacroiliac joint where the spine joins the pelvis, and sometimes the larger limb joints. Very occasionally it involves other joints too. The inflammatory process is not confined to joints, as the eyes are affected in one third of all patients with ankylosing spondylitis, who develop iritis. More rarely, the disease

involves the heart, the aorta, and very unusually causes fibrosis in the lungs. Ankylosing spondylitis affects men three times as often as women and, as in Mr Summers's case, usually strikes when they are still young. The first symptoms have nearly always become apparent before the patient is 40.

The disease runs in families and attacks those who have a particular tissue type, HLA B27 positive. These patients are also liable to suffer Reiter's syndrome, which has many similar characteristics.

When Mr Summers, who is now 32, left the Royal Marines, he obtained degrees in physical training and physiology before working in Japan. His back was giving rise to increasing pain and, as with many patients with ankylosing spondylitis, he found that his spine was becoming fixed, inflexible and increasingly bent.

While in Japan, he was struck by the Japanese habit of having a stretch break from the office routine. At an appointed time, the office supervisor rings a bell and all the staff desert their computers to have a good stretch, rather in the way a cat or dog will stretch in front of a fire.

Mr Summers started stretching himself and noticed that when he did so, his stoop became less pronounced and the pain in his

When sedation is a

danger to asthmatics

AS ASTHMA tends to be

worse when a patient is tense and anxious it always seemed

reasonable to suppose that some form of sedation might

tendency with ankylosing spondylitis, and many other causes of backache, is to lean forward as this usually lessens the pain. Traditional physiotherapy aims to strengthen the muscles which maintain a straight back.

Having discovered the value of stretching, Mr Summers's next ambition was to design a curved rack on which he could lie on the floor for a couple of minutes a day, so as to straighten out his spine. Once he started to use the back stretcher, he noticed that the pain eased, spinal flexibility increased and that he stood more erect.

Mr Summers's wooden back stretcher is now marketed in this country as well as in Japan, and is claimed to have belped sufferers with a wide variety of types of backache. The rack may look, Mr Summers admits, like an instrument of torture, but it is a well-designed and comfortable bed rest. Although the back stretcher eases back

pain for many of those who use it, others are inevitably left with discomfort of varying severity. These people may find relief by using a TENS - transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation — machine. TENS machines supply tiny electrical impulses to subcutaneous nerves, creating impasses which block the transmission of messages conveying pain to the brain, so the patient's discomfort is relieved without drugs.

Another type of machine using electrical impulses is the X Pain device, designed by Dr Alexander Macdonald. With this machine, the electrodes are applied to the spine rather than the peripheral skin. One elec-trode is placed above the top of the shoulders at the level of the first thoracic vertebrae, the other on the level of the 10th to 12th thoracic vertebrae, just below the level of a bra strap.

The Macdonald X Pain has the advantage of giving longer relief from shorter periods of treatment. With repeated use, the pain-free period increases in length

• Details of the different types of TENS machine may be obtained from the National Back Pain Association. 16 Elm Tree Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 SAT, which also provides comprehensive advice on all aspects of back pain. The Macdonald X Pain machine is marketed by APR Medical UK, Castlegate, Clitheroe BB7 IAD (01200 444449) and the back stretcher by Enanef and Co, 63 New Inn Lane, Guildford GU4 7HT (01483 33276).

THE

SALE.

THE

END.

SALE ENDS SATURDAY JANUARY 27TH 9AM TO 7PM.

Saturday is the last day of the Harrods Sale and there will be further

reductions on selected sale merchandise throughout the store. Personal shoppers only. Subject to availability.

SALE OPENING HOURS: Today and Tomorrow 10am to 7pm. Saturday 27th 9am to 7pm.

Harrods Ltd., Knightsbridge, SWIX 7XL, Telephone 9171-730 1234.

Burt Lancaster and Deborah Kerr in From Here to Eternity. Not only do women benefit from promiscuity but there is a biological case for affairs

In praise of infidelity

ar-room chat will never be the same. A new book promises to revolutionise the way we think about sex in general, and in particular the diche of the promiscuous, stud-like male and the more docile, faithful female.

In fact, female promiscuity and infidelity lie at the heart of sexual behaviour, according to the biologist Dr Robin Baker. reader in zoology at Manchester University and author of a book published next month, Sperm Wars; infidelity, sexual conflict and other bedroom battles.

Not only do women benefit from a degree of promiscuity, but the book also makes a biological case for women having secret affairs. If a woman has a stable relationship but can become impregnated by a male with better genes than her regular partner, then she increases the chances of producing successful children.

Whatever women may say when they have an affair, they do all the things that make pregnancy more possible. They reach sperm-retaining orgasms, avoid the issue of

sex when they are most fertile. Sperm-retaining orgasms are crucial, Dr Baker says. They are not essential for conception but in Dr Baker's new scenario, orgasms are vital in mating with a success-

Leading biologist Dr Robin Baker tells Rachel Kelly that a desire to have secret affairs increases a woman's chances of producing successful children

How does he know? By reading a 1989 survey of 4,000 women conducted jointly by Company magazine and Dr Mark Bellis, formerly of Manchester University, and by more recent joint work analysing the orgasms and sperm intake of 11 couples over

several years.

His research found that when a woman reaches orgasm, the entrance of her cervix dips down into the area at the top of the vagina known as the seminal pool. If it contains semen, then far more of it is likely to be sucked into her reproductive tract. Having an orgasm at the

same time as her partner, or immediately after him, increases the intake of sperm. With a regular partner a woman is more likely to reach orgasm first, so more of his sperm are lost in flowback. However, in an affair a woman's orgasm tends to be either simultaneous or after the man, sperm retention and conception.

Moreover, she is likely to be impregnated by sperm of a higher quality. If a woman has sex with two men within a week, both of their ejaculates may be alive within her reproductive tract at the same time. Which of them will fertilise any egg she produces will depend on the competitive ability of their sperm.

Thus the "sperm war" of the book's title. The sperm from rival males will compete to fertilise the egg first and prevent the other from getting there. The competitive edge of a male's sperm becomes a vital

> The sperm from rival males will compete for the egg

part of his overall reproductive ability and of his biological fitness. By provoking the sperm war by her infidelity, a fertilised by the fittest male. Her children will inherit their father's abilities so she will have fitter offspring.

Given the potential biological advantages of having an affair, why don't all women do so? Blood-group studies have shown that around 10 per cent of children are not fathered by their legitimate fathers, fig-ures which have been ensince 1991 and validated by the introduction of the Child Support Agency. Cheap DNA finger-printing

was theirs. Higher social status women with successful husbands are less likely to have affairs. In contrast, two studies in towerblock communities, one in Liverpool and one in the South East, show that 30 per cent of

was developed for fathers who

questioned whether a child

children are illegitimate. The reasons are obvious. Higher status women have potentially more to lose by having an affair. They could be abandoned by their existing partner if he were to find out, or face possible aggression if he were to stay. In addition, all involved risk catching a sexually transmitted disease. But all women can benefit from a the advantages and none of

the disadvantages. The most hopeful implication is that the work of fertility clinics will be revolutionised. At present 10 per cent of men and women are sub-fertile and have problems conceiving.

Back Pain?

Painful Sleep?

Your sleeping posture is more important than you think.

sperm fight to fertilise the egg with some sperm designed to sacrifice themselves and destroy sperm from other males that may be in the woman's body — should help clinics understand more about the ejaculate," Dr Baker says. Fertility clinics find it difficult to identify fertile and infertile

males. This could help." Dr Baker is careful to avoid any moral conclusions. "I'm not saying whether it's right or wrong to have affairs," he says, "I'm not trying to provide a biological excuse for people who are having affairs. I am just seeking to explain people's

affected him personally? The 51year-old academic lives with his partner. the writer Elizabeth Oram, in Manchester and he has five children, three grown-up sons by his first wife, and two younger children by his sec-ond. I think that it has made me more cynical about people's behaviour.

"People might think having an affair is all about romance. actually, what you're saying is that you're trying to collect some better sperm from somebody else"."

 Sperm Wars; infidelity, sexual is published by Fourth Estate on February 14, price £7.99.

help them, and lessen the danger of an asthmatic Recent research, published in the British Medical Journal by doctors working at the McGill University in Montreal, shows that this is not so. Simple sedatives of the type

which might be prescribed to help a patient through a transient crisis doubled the rate of respiratory collapse severely enough to endanger the life, or even to cause death, in the patient with asthma. Even more striking was the effect of the

major tranquillisers used in the treatment of schizophrenia or in patients who have drugs — such as Largactil and its successors — were prescribed, the number of patients who were dangerously ill, or died, as a result of the asthmatic attack tripled. However, the use of antidepressant drugs did not affect the death rate in asthmatic

Epilepsy drug danger to unborn



THE foetal alcohol syndrome is well known. Women who are heavy drinkers and who have a baby may find that their child is born slightly mentally retarded and with, classically, a pixie-type face. Less well known is the effect occasionally seen of taking sodium valproate (Epilim) when pregnant. This drug is used extensively to treat many different types of

Taking it when pregnant can produce neural tube defects which give rise in the child to a characteristic syndrome, named the foetal valproate syndrome. The baby has an unusually high forehead, poor sight and hearing, a flattened nose and usually displays some mental retardation.

General Practitioner magazine reports sodium valproate are taking court action against their family doctors, and another 45 against hospital specialists. The parents claim that they were not warned adequately of possible dangers to the unborn baby if an epileptic takes sodium valproate when she is

Sandy Bisp reports on the saving of Alice Plunkett's ear

our most promising A young riders, won against the odds in her first point-to point of the season at the weekend, even though her horse didn't come first. She was just happy to be riding again eight weeks after a fall in which her left ear was severed by her horse's hoof.

Alice had no idea what had happened. "A friend with me saw it happen. She just said you've cut your ear a bit', and I put her scared look down to the blood. I found out later that an ambulanceman had picked up my ear and packed it in ice. On the way to the hospital my neck was taped to the stretcher."

Alice then underwent a four-hour operation to reattach her ear at the Radcliffe Infirmary. Oxford, by Henke Giele. an Australian plastic surgeon, and Tim Goodacre. a consultant. Dr Giele reconnected an artery a third of a millimetre wide at the back of Alice's ear to re-establish circulation before, as is customary in micro-surgery, drafting in the leeches. Leech saliva contains hirudin, a powerful anti-coagulant. As it feeds, a leech facilitates drainage until damaged veins can heat and takeover as the circulation is restored.

A cohort of 20 leeches, supplied by Biopharm, in Wales, sucked away at the car while Alice's horse-riding

Healing habits of leeches



Alice Plunkett: riding again

friends helped her to overby giving the leeches pet names. "Becky Blandford. who had a bad riding accident herself a couple of years ago. was wonderful and visited me every day," acknowledges

*Others. like John Fran-The Radeliffe Infirmary

come and Marcus Armytage. came too. I quickly got used to the leeches, but did scream when one fell on my nightdress, which was pathetic."

stores leeches in a fridge to

life expectancy of five years. When needed, they can absorb a blood meal five times their three-gram bodyweight. When sated, they detached themselves. "Once or twice I'd hear a leech fall into a box attached to my ear after feeding for about 15 minutes, Her spirits ebbed at one

slow them down: they have a

point but for good reason, "I felt awful, she says. "Then I had a transfusion to replace the blood the leeches had drained from me." Before leaving hospital she was told not to smoke and to cover her

ear to protect it from extreme cold for the weeks it would take to heal. "The cold could send blood vessels into spasm, risking

frost-bite. But even the really cold weather we've had hasn't set back my recovery or stopped me riding." says Alice, who simply donned an extra woolien hat or ear Now, her ear is virtually as

good as new. "About half an inch had to be cut off the top rim. I could have had plastic surgery, but it would have taken two months to heal. Alice said.

Tossing back her brown mane of hair to reveal an ear which, at its worst looked bruised, she maintains: "I'm lucky to have my car at all.

Tension free sleep is vital to your health. The Tempur Mattress and Pillow mould to the body, resulting in optimum distribution of pressure. 30 MGHTS WITH COMPLETE MONEY BACK GUARANTEE The Tempur Mattress and Pillow are recommended by more than 15.000 medical professionals. Ask year Physiotherapist Chiropractor or Osteopath. Picase send me details on the Tempur Mattress & Pillow

Return of the old hunks: Al Pacino and Robert De Niro in Heat and Harrison Ford in Sabrina. Read Geoff Brown's review of the new films.

ADVERTISEMENT CAN BE TREATED PAINLESSLY

rely parriess metro Bressing complaint For details telephone, 0171-487 2018 THE MEDICAL CONTRIL

Owling i

HP A

Send coupon ux Tempur - Pedic (UK) Ltd FREEPOST (HA 4653) Greenford, Middlesex UB6 8BR

or call 0800 616 135

1delih

So just what does make the Americans laugh?

• ohn Cleese is having to reshoot the final scenes of the sequel to A Fish Called Wanda. Quentin Letts explains the American obsession with happy endings

'Americans.

want action

- words

have no

weight for

them'

MEMO from Mel Brooks to John Cleese: "Cut the words, mister, and add the sound of gunfire or smashing plates. That, says the veteran director of Hollywood comedies, is how to tickle the modern American filmgoer.

Cleese is no mean comic talent himself, but it is advice he may want to take after the rejection by trial audiences in Los Angeles of his new film, Fierce Creatures. They loved the first half, but when the Kevin Kline character was. bumped off, and as the movie moved towards what Cleese calls his "fiendishly clever ending", the preview audiences stopped laughing and became restive. As a result, Cleese and his cast must reassem-

ble and shoot a new ending for the film before it can be released.

How can Cleese, veteran of Monty Python, Favily Towers and A Fish Called Wanda, to which Fierce Creatures is a sequel, have misjudged the comic balance of this film? Have American comic tastes changed? Can Fierce Creatures be

salvaged?
Mel Brooks, reclin-ing in his office in Los Angeles, says "yes" to the last two questions. Brooks, whose hits have included The

Producers, History of the World, Part One and Blazing Saddles, believes that American cinema has in recent years lost some of its intellectual edge. "You have to sugar-coat your message now," he says. "American audiences feel that if characters are only talking, nothing is going on. Words have no weight any more." Woody Allen is a brilliant exception, but his movies are small beer, financially.

America has no shortage of low common denominators, and in acountry of mixed linguistic abilities and ethnic variety, the scope for subtle in-jokes is smaller than in Britain. In recent years there has been some appreciation of irouy, thanks to the lip-curlingly sarcastic wit of Roseanne and Frazier on television, but Americans still grunt happily at stereotypes and

consultant, from Maryland, says: "Guys like exploding lavatories, and women like puns and riddles. But the really crucial thing about American audiences is that they don't want a downer at the end of a film." It was even true when Boris Karloff made Frankenstein, says

Langley. "A scene where the mon-ster threw the girl into the water was too strong for test audiences."

Mel Brooks had similar prob-lems with his 1991 movie Life Stinks. Alan Ladd Jnr. then head of MGM, took a look at the ending and counselled a rethink. "He felt it was a little too negative, and he asked us to change it before we had finished shooting," says Brooks, "I was happy to take his advice."

Preview audiences, who sit with verdict dials at the ends of their fingertips, frequently make a nuisance of themselves. Some directors have questioned their independence, suspecting studio executives of packing them with

flunkeys.

Frank Capra shot five endings for his 1941 film Meet John Doe. The preview audiences gave a mixed verdict, so Capra ignored them and chose his

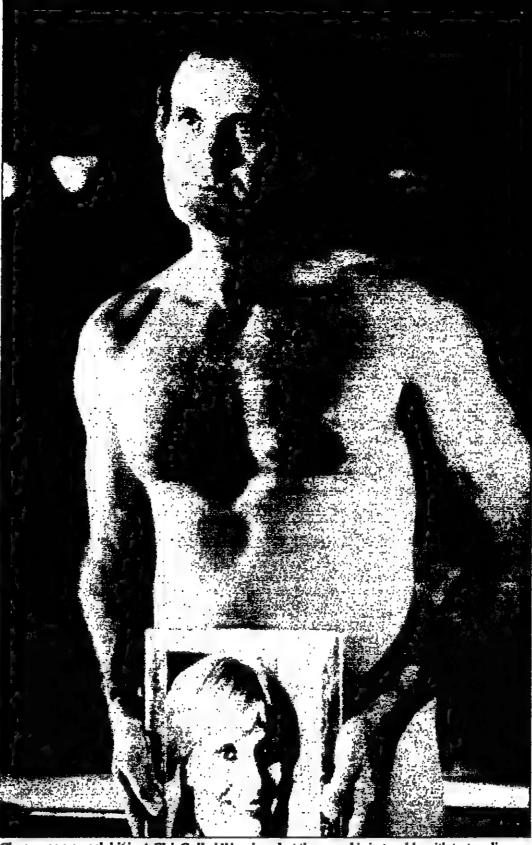
own ending. American cinemagoers have long had different tastes from Europeans. Dr Strangelove; Stanley Kubrick's black comedy about nuclear Armageddon, wowed viewers in Europe and in a few East Coast art house cinemas, but it left Middle America cold. Robert Sklar, the

Professor of Cinema Studies at New York University film school (alumni include Martin Scorsese, Oliver Stone and Spike Lee), says: "British humour tends to be a little darker than ours. The blockbuster era, with its cardboard characters, has softened audiences even more." Skiar describes how, in 1948,

Preston Sturges tried to make a joke out of a conductor who wants to murder his philandering wife. Unfaithfully Yours is a merry little film, but for America in the 1940s the joke somehow fell flat. America in the 1990s is proving similarly tricky, although this time the problem is lack of audience attention and a constant demand for noise. Brooks blames the music television channel, MTV, and the recent rash of explosive action

Of his own handling of Fierce Roger Langley, a rather grandly Creatures, Cleese has said, with "I nave deen working or this script for eight years and have still made mistakes which I did not realise until now. All I can say is that in this business nobody knows

anything."
The Kevin Kline character, an oily marketing executive, will, says Cleese, have to be resurrected in



Cleese was a smash hit in A Fish Called Wanda — but the sequel is in trouble with test audiences

some ingenious manner, despite an earlier demise in the film. Kline will soon be well qualified to play Lazarus in any forthcoming bibli-cal effort: his Wanda character, Otto, also met a grisly end, only to be revived.

The regrouping of a now far-

flung cast for re-filming is a logistical nightmare (Michael Palin is incommunicado, somewhere in Borneo) and the cost may rise to £500,000 for each new minute of film footage.

To return to a piece of work you thought finished is to re-encounter

the despair of a schoolboy being presented at lunch with breakfast's unfinished plate of kedgeree. Matron used to say: "Come on, it will do you good." Cleese and his associates no doubt hope the promise will stand equally true for Fierce Creatures — Take Two.

The Italian woman, passion and Mr Hurd

"SIGNORA AGNELLI is very proud of her decor," one of the minister's senior aides whispered as we walked down the endless corridors of the vast foreign ministry on the outskirts of Rome.

Decor? We were there to discuss the weighty issues of European integration: the single currency. common foreign policy, enlarge-ment. At 73, Susanna Agnelli, sister of the Fiat tycoon Gianni Agnelli, is Italy's first female Foreign Minis-ter and is in charge of EU affairs for the next six months.

But Signora Agnelli has no fear of male officialdom. She grew up in the hedonistic atmosphere of Italy's unofficial Royal Family, and spent eight years at the foreign ministry as a senior official herself. If she wants to change the ministry wallpaper to startling sky-blue regency stripes, that is what she will do,

even if it clashes a little with the great Old Master paintings which adorn her walls. "Oh, it was so drab," Signora Agnelli says in the breezy style which is her hallmark. "This is so much more cheerful, don't you Susanna Agnelli

is Italy's best hope," an experienced observer of the Italian scene told me when l arrived. She has

certainly survived longer than many expected; she was "fished out" of political retirement (her own phrase) just over a year ago by Lamberto Dini, the caretaker "technocrat" Prime Minister who succeeded the mercurial Silvic Berlusconi.

Susanna Agnelli

She has an air of slight hauteur, rather like a public-school headmistress. The impression is accentuated by her height; she is an imposing 5ft 10in, "very tall for an Italian woman", as she observes. She is a handsome woman with an energy and style which belie her 73 years. In her memoirs she describes the "free love" which marked the early postwar years in her set, and she still has Latin passion, not least for tall and distinguished Englishmen. She admits to having been "very

fond" of Douglas Hurd when he was Foreign Secretary. She used to take walks with him in a romantic garden near Rome when he visited Italy. "I loved his sense of humour," she says, reminding me that as an Agnelli she had a British governess ("Miss Parker") and a somewhat British lifestyle. She with Malcolm Rifkind.

She can certainly match her European counterparts in experience as both politician and administrator. She was something of a left-wing rebel in her youth, professing admiration for icons of the Left such as Castro (no doubt partly

the seaside resort of Argentario in Tuscany by crusading against local building rackets. She then became an MP, and rose to be both Senator and Euro MP

But she is also an Agnelli. Her memoirs are entitled, with evocation of a lost world, Vestivamo alla Marinara (We Always Wore Sailor Suits). The sailor suits were from Bond Street. She was born a year after Gianni and remained close to him as he rose to become head of Fiat (which their grandfather founded), and thereby the un-

crowned King of Italy".

As teenagers at the family's Turin mansion and Riviera villas. she and Gianni drank champagne for breakfast and gambled and flirted in Monte Carlo. She still speaks impeccable

English in an ac-French as Italian. "Never forget you are an Agnelli," was Miss Parker's injunction to her charges. Unlikely: the family owns newspapers, football teams and banks as well as whole industries.

In the heady postwar atmosphere of liberation she met the love of her life, Count Urbano Ratazzi, who was a law student. It was love at first sight. They married

almost immediately to the astonishment of their friends, had six children, and went to live in Argentina, but were divorced in

IT WAS after her return to Italy that she threw herself into local and then national politics, managing to stay untainted by the backhanders and bribes (tangenti) which have undone so many of her contemporaries. Nowadays Susanna lives alone in a one-bedroom flat in Rome full of English chintz. She also has a seaside house at Argentario which fills with children and grandchildren in the holidays. Unusually for a minister. she offers advice to the lovelorn in an "agony aunt" column in the magazine Oggi, but keeps her own private life private.

The only hint that she might feel

her age comes with her assertion clearly deeply felt - that "time is precious, and must not be wasted". Giving a disarming if slightly wintry smile, she says she took as a compliment a reference I once

nence with "tealous" EU meetink "Why should we sit for 12 or 15 hours when we could achieve exactly the same result in three or four? It is extremely stilly to suppose that if you stay until midnight you have somehow worked harder.

made to her undisguised impa-

RICHARD OWEN

Scowling is back in fashion

who recently won the lovingly-metred admiration of a woman poet, has now attracted attention to the very opposite and of his emotional range. As Tony Blair bravely tried to defend Harriet Harman from the dispatch box, Mr Prescott's face, granite-featured at the best of times, settled into what is being called the "scowl of the

Not since Medusa turned men to stone with a flash of her fiery gaze has so much damage been done with a single glance. Insiders have often talked of Mr Prescott's antipathy towards Ms Harman, but until now party loyalty has kept his true feelings under wraps. Even now he expresses nothing in words. It is all in the look — as loaded as the Mona Lisa's,

enigmatic.

Seventeenthcentury poets, the eyes were the soul, would have made much of Mr Prescott's persistent grimace. Indeed, Hamlet's Mousetrap was designed to tran his stepfather into giving some

Hamlet to kill him. Only by an unfortunate type-setting error did American comics of the 1940s announce: "Lawless men fear more than anything the terri-



That Prescott face

thing away in his face. The expected scowl from Claudius King Richard? was what finally convinced

fying sight of Batman's cowl." It was the glower, more than

righted wrongs. And one cannot help but remember York's words as Richard II faces downfall:

Even so, or with

much more contempt, men's eyes/Did scowl on gentle Richcried 'God save Is Ms Harman to go the way of poor

It is perhaps particularly unfortunate for Mr Prescott, as a politician, that he did not live in the 19th century, that golden age of scowling. Anyone who wore less than the grimace was considered too frivolous for public office. And even in this century.

Winston Churchill would not have been the man he was without the famous frown.

But the 1990s is a happy-clappy time. Tony Blair smiles so hard that like the Cheshire cat, the grin is often there for some minutes after the rest of him has gone. Pop group REM recently celebrated Shiny, happy people, and rave culture demands the wearing of a yellow smiling face - the scowl was thus not only portentous, but unfash-

Above all, though, didn't John Prescott's mother ever tell him that you shouldn't pull faces, in case the wind changes and you stay like that for ever?

Does the Harman affair mean that the wind has changed? Watch this face.

GILES COREN

An Inaugural Offer

7 nights in Costa Rica, the Land of Wonders, from £525.00

A glorious climate, beautiful landscapes, lakes, rivers, two coastlines, exotic flora, wikilife, friendly people, national parks, sophisticated lifestyle, peaceful, beaches beyond be-lief and a true paradise on earth. Costa Rica is without doubt the most exciting destination in travel today. The above will be made available to the British

traveller when we inaugurate the first ever flight series to San Jose, the lovely capital of Costa Rica. Since the country is small and diverse, most places of interest can be visited n the course of one day, these include the Pacific or Caribbean coasts, the Turtle channels, the national parks, volcanoes, coffee plantations, orchid farms, botanical gardens, lakes or San Jose with its lovely squares, theatres and museums.

With these attributes we have decided on the 4-star Hotel Torre (or similar) as our base both to relax and explore. It has fine accommoda-tion with full facilities, bars, restaurant, garden and swimming pool, Excursions are available to all of the sights mentioned above.

We are making available just 20 places at a unuspoilt by large tour operators.



special inaugural offer on a first-come first-reserved hasis from just \$525 for a seven-night stay. Remember that Costa Rica, although being the third most prosper-

DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES 1996 per person in a twin Feb J. 15, 22, 29, 5525 Mar 7. 14.21.28.6535 May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 6545 Single room supplement £125

Supplement for the 4-star Hotel Flesta, Puntarenas. £56 per person per week Tartf includes: return flights, mad transters, 7 nights at th Hotel Torre un a hed and breaktast basis, semices of a loca guides. Not included: issurance, airport toxes, excursions All prices are subject to change.

0171-6161000

VOYAGESJULESVERNE 21 Dorset Square, London NW1 6QG Travel Promotions Ltd. ABTAV1661 ATOL SESE

From just £30 the RAC covers you in any car

from just £30 for a full 12 months' cover, no one offers you more security on the road than the RAC: RAC Rescue covers you, not your car. So now

you can call on us whenever you need fast roadside assistance, even when you're simply a passenger in someone alsa's cur.

Roadside Rescue. In more than 8 out of 10 cases, our patrols can fix cars on the spot. Otherwise, they'll tow you to a nearby garage, free

Accident Service. A replacement car, free legal

11 Thefi and Vandalism Cover. If your car's stolen or con't be driven because of vandalism, we'll remove it to a nearby garage or secure area.

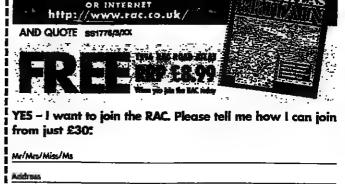
Battery Assist. A new battery on the spot.

Whatever service you use, callouts and our labour are trae - you only pay for parts.

You can also tailar your cover to meet your needs, with the option to take out Joint and Family Cover or add our

Dan't wait until you break down. Find out how to join the





PHONE FREE TODAY ON

Send to: RAC Rescue, FREEPOST, Bristol BS38 7AU. (No stump needed.)



advice, plus we'll deal with your insurers. **Rescan costs \$30 if you pay by Continuous Crieft Cord Authority or Direct Debit. All prices include an extrakent fee. Phone lines open Monday - Friday Barn - Spro, Saturday Farm - Spro, Sunday 10am

A turning point for the Tories

Kenneth Baker counts the

victims of the Harman affair

This was the week when hope returned to the Conservative Party. Tory MPs, buffeted by opinion polls and defections, suddenly started to walk tall. The cheers that accompanied the Prime Minister's devastating and witty destruction of Tony Blair at the dispatch box on Tuesday were heartfelt.

In politics there are some defining moments: what follows them is different from what went before. This week we saw such a defining moment. For more than two years. Tony Blair has carefully crafted the image of a new, reformed Labour Party with high-sounding objectives and laud-able motives. He almost got away with it. But this was the when Old Labour shattered the new, and two years of

reform were stripped bare. This week showed that the Labour Party is still a snarling, jealous, vindictive pack of class-ridden bigots. A grant-maintained school for Blair's son was swallowed only be-cause of the prospect of office. But a grammar school for a Shadow Cabinet member's son made the party's gorge rise - John Prescott's pugnacious, contemptuous scowl

The casualties of this week begin with Tony Blair — there he stands, battered but unbuckled. His party does not want to follow him on education which he says is at the heart of new

Labour's tribalism has swamped the progressive soundbite. The soundbite man was at a loss for words. Indeed the Prime Minister, so often dismissed as mute and inglorious, drove a stake into Tony Blair's credibility when he said, "I want to be tough on hypocrisy and tough on the causes of hypocrisy" — the bitten was biting back.

The second casualty is Har-

riet Harman, for she is going to remain in office. Tony Blair cannot afford to lose her, for he would then stand isolated, as a Labour Party member who has rejected the local comprehensive school. Harriet Harman is like Captain Ahab, lashed to the stricken body of Moby Dick. She, in an act of inhuman cruelty, has been given a suspended sentence, for she will be tortured for nine months and then rejected at the Labour Party

conference. The third casualty is, unfortunately. Harriet Harman's son. Joe. I have little sympathy for a mother who, knowing full well how her party would react, exposes her son to such unwelcome publicity. He has become the guilty one who bears on his young shoulders the sins of his parents. Donald Dewar was forced to say that the boy should not be victimised. I think that many Labour activists at the grassroots across the country would be surprised to learn that children who did not go to the local comprehensive school were being victimised.

The fourth casualty is truth. David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman, was twisting words to make a trap for fools when he said: "Of course we believe in parental choice, and that choice will not be distorted by tests or interviews." What this means is that there will be no distinction between a grammar school, a grant-maintained school and a comprehensive. Collective uniformity and not individual choice is still at the heart of Labour thinking. To adapt Henry Ford's famous dictum, "You can have any school you want, as long as it's

the same as the next one."

The fifth casualty is the "stakeholder" slogan. The parents of children who go to grant-maintained or grammar schools are stakeholders. They have a stake in the education of their children, but if the only choice is the comprehensive school provided by the local education authority, then the real stakeholder is the LEA itself. At the very first test, Blair's big idea is shown to be hollow, brittle and

meaningless.

The sixth casualty is the integrity of public life. The veil over Labour's sleazy morals has fallen away. And let there

be no doubt, this is a moral issue. It is Blair, the simply wrong to grab privileges for one's own children soundbite and then deny them. man, was to others. at a loss

for words

In politics, virtue is often eventually rewarded by seeing one's opponent make a mistake. Labour's mistake this week is huge. The Tories are divided on European economic and

monetary union, but that is an economic issue; Labour is divided on choice in education, and that is a moral issue. Economic issues are about the thinking head of a party, moral issues are about its soul. Labour taunts about a divided Tory party will now be thrown

lmost for the first time in three years, this epi-sode has allowed the Tories to go on to the attack. That is a lesson which the party and the Government should take to heart. They should not be out on the back. foot by having to defend their own record again and again.

My advice to ministers is to tear up all those defensive briefs lovingly prepared by government departments and Central Office. Follow Danton's advice, when the French army seemed to be facing almost inevitable defeat. "L'audace, L'audace, Toujours l'audace." On to the attack. Act, if you like, like an Opposition. Forget the shadow-box-

ing and aim to leave bruises. When the history of the next election is written, I suspect that people will turn back to the events of this week, and particularly to the Prime Minister's performance at Question Time, and say, "That was the turning point."

The author was Chairman of the Conservative Party.



We're sorry for all the distress, but we've done mothing illegal or immoral..."

Mitchell's snub to Major

o the "peace process" stag-gers forward; once again a meltdown has been avoided. Why, though, did the Mitchell commission not resolutely back John Major's well-known stand on the arms issue?

There is a feeling in some quar-ters in Belfast that the evidence given by the RUC may have played a role in weakening the British Government's position. If the Mitchell commission heard from the RUC that the British Government's insistence that at least some arms should be decommissioned by the IRA before any all-party talks, this evidence may have had an impact on the commis-sion's findings. But the real problem for the Government lies not in the apparent waiving of its preconditions - Sir Patrick Mayhew had already opened the door to this possibility

but in the substitute confidence-

building measures now proposed. There is much noble assertion of peaceful and democratic principle in the Mitchell report, but it should be noted, in particular, that the reference to the need for all parties to "abide by the terms of any agreement reached in all-party negotiations" has taken the place of the much firmer statement of the principle of consent which was to be found in the Downing Street declaration. It quite likely that Sinn Fein will soon sign up at the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation in Dublin, in support

of this rather more vague principle of

Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams has been spared the immediate embarrassment of having to accept that the present partition of the island has a democratic basis. To that extent, his leadership has been strengthened. But this is only a postponement of what will be for him an evil day. when he is forced to face the implication that the status of Northern Ireland cannot change without the consent of the majority of its people. There are those in Belfast who

believe that exactly the same thing has harmened with decommissioning. It too is only postponed until the start of all-party talks. There is no doubt that the difficulties faced by Mr Adams have been eased, but only in if we resentione. In particular, attention should be

paid to the notion in the report that

The British Government is putting a brave face on a report which ignores

the Ulster majority, writes Paul Bew

comes as

commitments to exclusively peaceful methods will have to be honoured. As it stands, Sinn Fein would claim it has already agreed to much of the Mitchell formula (the most pressing difficulty will be with the condemnation of punishment shootings and beatings). But the real problem lies not with the political wing of Sinn Fein, but with the IRA, and this is the clue to significance of the word "hon-oured". The rhetoric has to be

followed by action to remove the element of threat and biackmail.

There are other places where the Minchell document is less decisive. The reference to the practice of "targeting" - the harassment of members of the security forces,

international body's report outlines two well known views. The first expresses the position of the British Government that "all parties [are] aware of the need of prior decommissioning before the ceasefires were announced and should not now be able to avoid that requirement". On the other hand, there is the claim of the former Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds and of the Sinn Fein leaders: "We were told that decommissioning of arms prior to all party negotiations was not requested before

the announcement of the ceasefires." The report continues: "We believe that each side of this argument reflects a core of reasonable concern. which deserves to be understood and addressed by the other side." Now of course this does not constitute a resolution of the issue: which side is right here is a matter of easily ascertainable historical fact and public record, and it is the British Government. It can be argued that in many places the commission had no alternative but to fudge, but here it chose to fudge largely for the sake of placating nationalist amour propre.

But although Ulster Unionist MPs were irritated by this and on other soons the manufacture of the same state. scores, their response yesterday was carefully modulated. They cannot have been delighted by the commission's stance, but they were hardly

The speech by the Ulster Unionists: deputy leader. John Taylor, in his constituency antici-

pated yesterday's For Gerry Adams, events quite precisely. The unionists, this report including the Dem-Unionists: Peter Robinson, have clearly learnt good news the lessons of the past. Over-emotion-al responses to the but only in the Anglo-frish Agreemeantime ment of 1995 and the framework doc-

> served absolutely no purpose. This time, the unionists, like the Government, are determined to build on the

n the end it was John Hume who lost his temper in the House, but this should not detract attention from the risks taken by the Ulster Unionists. In Belfast, Ian Paisley Jr - in the absence of his father, who is in poor health after a trip to the Cameroons - angrily pushed the conventional Democratic Unionist Party line that the commission's report was a predictable betrayal of the unionist majority.

The DUP is currently at a low ebb in the polls, having fallen to a mere? per cent. But nobody should doubt its ability to regain support if the British Government were to call all-party talks at which some unionist chairs

would unavoidably be empty.
In the modern history of Anglo-Irish relations, the British Government has quite deliberately avoided a

by Edward Kelsey, who looks like

confrontational stance. Nevertheless, as an official said, "eighty-five per cent of the play lies with London"; the long-term historical and economic responsibility for the Province lies with Mr Major, as he eloquently affirmed yesterday.

In the House of Commons, Mr Major moved to recain the initiation.

Major moved to regain the initiative by promoting very much more warmly than he had done before the idea of an elected body. Crucially, John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, helped him by using restrained lenguage on this train.

language on this topic. It now seems clear that the British Government's view is that in the absence of a first move on arms by the paramilitaries, the only other possible route to all-party talks is through the electoral process.

The truth remains, however, that the Government itself needs to do more in the field of confidence-building. It needs to discuss with the unionists much more frankly and realistically than it has in the past its broad vision of the political future for the Province. If it can do so, the time won for the "peace process" this week, will not be in vain.

There are challenges for everyone" — this was the vogue phrase of the day, as officials strove yesterday to put the best face on the Mitchell in Northern Ireland - 83 per cent according to the latest poll - have been asked to accept what they have hitherto rejected: talks before any decommissioning gets under way. "I cannot see how an election can be regarded as a block to progress," said

Mr Major. By supporting the election propos-al, the Prime Minister has made sure that the challenge is extended to the leaders of the Northern nationalists. The British Government will be reluctant to take an irrevocable decision, unless it sees the Northern nationalists' opposition to an election somewhat refinced.

The Ulster Unionists were at their most placatory yesterday, when they said that they have no intention of seeking the return of Stormont, or indeed any purely internal settlement. Mr Major seemed to be saying in the House that much will now depend on Mr Hume's capacity for generosity and flexibility. He was

Books, beer and passion Rachel Cusk on

judging the Whitbread Prize

he Whithread Book of the Year is a bit more fun than most other book prizes. Perhaps this feels, operate in a sphere as opposed in its friendly Friar-Tuckishness, its ethos of communality and conviviality, to the solitary neaks of artistic endeavour as it possible to be. Although this partnership of liquor and literature has had a destructive history, its endurance testifies to a fundamental attraction. But it is hard to get the boorishness of beer out of the Book of the Year. If Whithread knew anything about books, it surely would not line them up like so many beauty queens in a judging process by necessity unfair and by implica-tion superficial.

In his prize giving speech, Sir Richard Hoggart, the chairman this year of the judging panel, rightly found in favour of the brewers record on sponsorship. Whitbread makes no claim to erudition: indeed, its only involvement is to do what it does best, namely administering large quanti-ties of alcohol in comfortable surroundings. The business of comparing things which cannot be compared — a biography with a children's book or a volume of poetry, a mature novel with a first novel — is harder to dispatch. According to Hoggart, the chairman of Whitbread, Sir Michael Angus, cheerily likened the competition to Crufts. That, perhaps, marks the point at which an

innocence of literary politics becomes a troubling disregard for it.

It is one of the difficulties of financial largesse, particularly where it touches nerves as acute as those of the literary sensibility, that it repre-sents a collision of irreconcilable interests. Without sounding ungrate ful, the charitable impulse is hard to argue with. It is an act of selfarticulation on the part of the giver, yet writers, more than most, find it hard to surrender that privilege.

-oggazt's advice to us was to compare the books not so much with each other as with themselves. How far had each book fulfilled the requirements of its form? Which of them had surpassed these requirements, to reach the magical place where the form is actually being advanced before one's eyes? Was Salman Rushdie's The Moor's Last Sigh a better novel than Kate Atkinson's Behind the Scenes at the Museum was a first novel?

In the voluble (and highly partisan) rabble that was the final judging meeting, literary criticism just rolled up its sleeves and fought dirty. But the sheer luxury of discussing books with a fautasy-football-style team of forgotten. There can be few conversations more dignifying than those about books; it is one of the great gifts of writers that they teach us how to

Julian Critchley spoke movingly and at a mature politician's unbreachable length — about Gladstone; Candia McWilliam was illummating on the subject of Rushdie. Simon Tait gallantly defended the neglected outpost of children's litera-ture, although we all had sorrowfully to admit that here it was the form itself, rather than Michael Morpugo's practice of it, which was disadvantaged. Oddly, poetry was similarly suspected of slightness, despite being the noblest form of all.

t is here that the philistinism of the Whitbread seemed most apparent, as if, for want of any better criteria, the judges merely set to weighing and measuring the volumes rather than discussing them. in fact it seems to have been the intimacy of poetry rather than its insub-stantiality which denied it the brewery's blaze of giory; added to which, a love for poetry arises partly out of familiarity and repetition, giving an unwonted feeling of rawness to the unfamiliar. Later, though, when one of Bernard O'Donoghue's poems was read out, the whole packed dining hall was rapt in silence.

The two categories which bear most comparison - novel and first novel - arnassed between them enough similarities to be pitted against the stemorian eloquence of Roy Jenkins, rather than each other. Like The Moor's Last Sigh, Kate Atkinson's Behind the Scenes at the Museum is an epic family saga, a great comic novel, a book alive with stories. In both of them we found the joyful articulation of the modern age; in Gladstone, a polished monument to the past. Hoggart advised that staple of democracy, a secret ballot, from which Atkinson's book, to his, our, and later her complete surprise, emerged the clear winner.

It is hard to award such an accolade to a writer at the beginning of her career, for fear of interfering with the natural course of her talents. It is hard, too, to explain why, while Rushdie and Jenkins at their peak are producing work of whose magnificence we can be proud, a relative novice should be permitted to command the field. Books, however, as Whitbread inadvertently but reliably reminds us every year, do not make easy competitors; and it is left to the judges merely to be persuaded, by whatever means the writer can devise, to fall in love. Where Kate Atkinson's novel seduced us, her

Edward 'Joe Grundy' Keisey to Kensington Palace to discuss their new range on Friday and in a one-hour meeting with the Prin-cess, she said she would be happy thieves if I had been there. This is for them to publicise that she wears their thigh-gripping shorts. Their logo will now be visible, but Andrew refuses to say whether any money has changed hands.

> • Does Granada know what it is taking on? The executive chief at a Forte hotel in Ascot, the Benystede. will be wearing a lucky charm during the National Chef of the Year competition. "I'll be wearing my wife's underwear for good luck in the finals," Jain McCormack says.

> > P·H·S Afkinson's novel seduced us.

Worthy prize

TWO MEN in Virginia Bottomley's life are locked in combat. The Heritage Minister's husband, Peter, is fighting her special advis-er. John Berkow, for a new parliamentary seat.

Berkow versus Bottomley takes place in the blue-rinse constituency of West Worthing. Both men are on the shortlist to be selected as the candidate. But Bottomley is the chicken, running from his marginal Eltham constituency in the desperate hope of a safe new perch.

The scrap could be unsavoury. Despite the appalling mess in which Labour now finds itself over education, the two are looking at a constituency with a notional majority of nearly 20,000 - a prize worth baring the knuckles for.

The constituency's shortlist of six also includes Michael Fallon, the former Education Minister, and Michael Stevens, who is running from his Shoreham seat. On Monday, local activists - a tight-lipped bunch who primly refuse to discuss the matter - will be choosing the final three. The odds are that Bottomley won't make it without his wife's support. But where will her loyalty lie?

 Could the cantankerous columnist Sir John Junor be considering a return to his holed warship, the Sunday Express? Sir John was

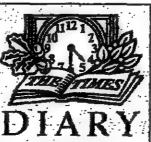
hotel with the paper's Editor, Sue Douglas. A supposedly discreet venue, the Howard was heaving with newspaper executives, not least Sir David English, Junor's boss at The Mail on Sunday.

Bard debt

THERE WILL be a shadow across supper tables tonight as Scotsmen wash down their haggis and neeps with a few wee swallies to mark



was looking for staff



Burns Night. The International Burns Festival, a year-long celebration of the bicentenary of the bard's death, is descending into farce and penury.

The festival's chairman disap-

peared last year. Plans for a global Burns Night supper and appearances by Pavarotti and Dame Kiri Te Kanawa have been scrapped. And now the Bank of Scotland has scotched a scheme for a Burns credit card, which would have raised £300,000 for the increasingiv lacklustre event.

Bad apple

MICHAEL HOWARD worked his way round his heroes in The Archers at the 45th birthday party in London of the Borsetshire soap on Tuesday, professing himself a reg-ular listener. It was he, after all, who in 1994 intervened in the case of Susan Carter, who was jailed after trying to protect her brother from the police.



The Princess of Wales

But he gave short shrift to the old curmudgeon of the series, Joe Grundy, who has been embroiled recently in an illegal cider-making operation. At the party. Joe (played

Sean Connery's bank-robbing brother) tried to enlist the Home Secretary's support in saving Joe's eldest son Alf, a petty thief. "I thought he might be able to do something for Alf," rasped Kelsey in his Borsetshire burr. "But he just didn't want to know," It's a crime THERE'S little chance that Peter Cadbury is about to rejoin the Tory party which he abandoned in a blaze of publicity because of the Government's pitiable record on law and order. His Hampshire home was burgled again yesterday, and he lost £15,000 of chattels.

Cadbury was screaming blue murder. "I would have shot the

just another example of the Government's failure to provide sufficient funds for local policing." Kitted out

THE PRINCESS of Wales may

have lost her staff but she has found friends in the world of Lycra leisure wear - she has agreed to endorse the kit she wears on her daily jaunts to the gym.

The Princess has been wearing. the leotards and shorts manufactured by Fit Kit, a Northamptonshire company run by Sharon and Andrew Leeding, who refrained from spilling the beans. They went

1.4

.2. 415 W 0.27

4.7



NATURAL SELECTION

New Labour needs new policies for survival

This week has been the most testing for Tony Blair since he came to power. It has exposed the divisions in his party, the speed with which its new-found discipline can disintegrate, and the incoherence of its education policy. But the force with which Mr Blair faced his critics - and those of Harriet Harman - has also given a glimpse of his personal tenacity under pressure.

Politicians differ in their responses to difficult times. Some, such as Neil Kinnock, crumple almost visibly in the face of a storm. Others, such as Margaret Thatcher, rise powerfully to the occasion. Who can forget her electric performance in the House before the election that forced her out of Downing Street? Mr Blair, who seems actively to court comparison with the last Tory Prime Minister, has something of her inner steel. Even according to his critics, the speech that he gave to his parliamentary party yesterday was one of his most effective.

His intention, it seems, was to set a precedent for future political debacles, in or out of office. He was not prepared to allow his party to force a perfectly competent colleague out of his Shadow Cabinet. Nor was he going to let the Tories hound her out. One of the factors that propelled his MPs back towards a sullen unity was the comparison that Mr Blair drew with John Major's propensity to buckle under pressure when his colleagues were in trouble.

Immediate danger has been averted. Ms Harman spoke with some composure in the health debate, and the Shadow Cabinet ral-lied round her! But the wounds will take much longer to heal in this peculiarly human political saga. Most unforgiving will be those MPs and activists who were faced with the same educational dilemma for their children and yet opted on principle for less adademically successful local schools.

Ms Harman's many opponents lost no chance to speak out against her. Labour's carefully nurtured unity was fractured for 48 hours - an indication of what is likely to

happen in Government when unpopular decisions have to be taken. And the public has seen how thin is "new" Labour's professed attachment to consumer, rather than producer, interests.

For what greater evidence could there be that Labour is out of touch with ordinary parents than that a member of its own leadership team could not abide by its policy? If parents want selection in education for their children, they should have it. It should not be the business of central government to lay down every law.

Labour has already conceded a small element of parent power in its promise not to abolish existing grammar schools unless parents of prospective pupils want this to happen. Here lie the seeds of a policy that could rid Labour of its incoherence over selection. For, after Ms Harman's actions. Mr Blair cannot continue to pretend that his current policy makes any sense.

If Labour is serious about decentralisation, it should allow parents in every education authority to decide periodically for themselves whether they want comprehensive schools or selection. What better way is there both of offering them a stake in their children's education and of wooing the middle classes back into state schools in the South East? Some areas will opt for one system, others for the other, providing the diversity that most educationists agree to be a good thing. Worries about secondary moderns being deserted by good teachers could be remedied by allocating them more money per pupil, following the example of 'magnet" schools in America.

The Labour Party may not be in the mood for such radicalism in education policy. But what the Harman row has done is to make Labour MPs face up to the fact that many inner-city comprehensives are abysmal and that something has to change. If the debate on education becomes more realistic within the party, then something more than Tory smiles will have emerged from this wreck.

THE STATE OF THE PRESIDENT

Clinton spoke more about himself than the nation

The State of the Union address is one of the great events of the American political calendar. It has traditionally been the opportunity for Presidents to mobilise Congress and public alike in favour of new legislative programmes. Mr Clinton's address on Tuesday evening was rather different in tone and ambition. Instead of policies for the present it concentrated on themes for American society and its future.

This philosophical tone was deliberate. Over the last few weekends dozens of historians and political scientists have been ushered into Sunday evening supper with Mr Clinton. All have been given five minutes to offer their views on the country and its challenges. The President then led them in discourse that frequently lasted late into the Washington night.

The product of all this thinking was unveiled in his text. The President recognised that 'the era of big government is over': this Is almost certainly true. Instead America. faced an uplifting future, "an age of possibilities", that progress had ushered in. In this Mr Clinton echoed themes associated

with his chief antagonist, Newt Gingrich. From this lofty terrain the President then informed fellow citizens where he stood on the issues. The ongoing budget dispute was largely ignored. Instead we learnt that Mr Clinton favoured lower teenage pregnancy rates, 'character' values in education, school uniforms, homework conducted with the television off, clean air and world peace. He was militarity opposed to violence in the media, drugs, disturbed families, gang-warfare, pollution, and ethnic conflict.

In reality, Mr Clinton's list of platitudes reflected hard political reality. With Republicans in firm control of both branches of Congress there was little point in offering detailed programmes. He knew that if he campaigned as a big government candidate there would be minimal chance of re-

election. The Clinton strategy for 1996 is clear. He will endorse everything popular that his opponents pass and, as in the present budget crisis, sit out the difficult and unpopular decisions which, curiously, this particular set of politicians seem willing to take. He will portray himself as an abovepolitics politician, standing resolutely for the shared values of all Americans.

In that sense the State of the Union was his campaign opener. His strategy may well work. Ronald Reagan's 'Morning Again in America' re-election drive in 1984 was similarly themeless yet delivered him 49 states. However, it also produced a second term that was disappointing compared with the achievements of his first. That may not matter much to the President, especially if, as seems likely, a Republican Congress is also re-elected this year.

Nonetheless, this speech and its strategy carry real risks. Mrs Clinton's impending visit to the Whitewater Grand Jury is part of those dangers. Through inept public relations and appalling conduct in the whole controversy the first couple have created a scandal that may erupt in uncontrollable fashion. It is difficult to run a campaign based on shared values when one of the most sacred of these - personal honesty has been brought into public question.

More fundamentally, Mr Clinton and his advisers may have misjudged the mood of Americans. The Republican takeover of Capitol Hill in 1994 was based on the most detailed and programatic election strategy in the history of congressional contests. Whoever emerges as the Republican nominee, while he will doubtless enjoy using the character issue against the Clintons, will speak in similarly detailed terms as Senator Dole did in his official reply on Tuesday. The lines are drawn between two strikingly different political visions. Americans seem destined for a fascinating presidential battle.

RIN TIN TIN'S TIN

Cats are gourmets, but give your dog a bone

It's war! It's war! As we report today on page 4. British supermarkets and independent manufacturers are baring their fangs, pawing the litter furiously and growling like fun at each other over the major matter of pabulum for pets. As the fur flies, and the cans of compressed meat whizz through the air. British pet-keepers are set to reap a lipsmacking reward for their mogs, pooches, rabbits, pot-bellied Vietnamese pigs in a muddle, ocelots and budgerigars.

The consumer - in this case, happily, vicarious - has never been more spoilt for choice: and equally, the consumer's pet has never been more spoilt. Winston Churchill may once have sat the poodle Rufus, bibbedup for dinner, on a Persian rug, but the modern Churchillians leave no bone unturned. There is now food for dieting dogs, dowager dogs, fidgety kittens and hamsters that go gloop in the dark. There is even separate food for budgies and canaries, though how the little whistlers can tell the

difference remains shrouded in mystery. Yet the main battle - the Somme, if you like, of the petfood world - is being fought over the four-legged eaters. The days when dogs were fed bowls of mush, made by boiling offal for hours, are now something only

....

grandma can recall. Dogs now eat from cans, boxes, tubes and cartons. They eat jellied chunks, meat lumps, flavoured dollops, coloured pellets and fragrant biscuits. Why, some of it looks good enough for us to taste: pass the haggis-flavoured poochpaste, dear girl, it's Burns's night.

Catfood is more expensive, commensurate soppiness of cat-owners.

But in the midst of this tug of war - said to be worth over a billion pounds a year - let us not forget that the happiest pets, whether dog, cat or white rat, are those that are fed on scraps from the kitchen. The next time little Caesar is hungry, consider whether he sausage, carrots, bread and milk. That, for an animal, is gourmet. After all, one man's swill is another per's feast ... and there is not even a tin-opener to grapple with.

with a cat's inflated sense of its own worth. But cat-keepers are, as a rule, richer and more finicky than those who live with dogs: they are readier to pay the extra whack for a "gourmet" tin of rabbit shavings, or zander ravioli-for-cats. In tussling for the right to fill the bowls of the nation's cats, the petfood people are quite alert to the money that can be made from feline hunger - and from the

would not prefer a nice bowl of chopped

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

side. The protesters at the site of the

Newbury bypass do not have an ex-clusive appreciation of these issues.

But sometimes a compromise with

our natural environment is necessary.

vation of a pleasant environment are heavily dependent on a prosperous and dynamic economy. British indus-

try is dependent on efficient and eco-nomic transport and distribution if it

is to compete with its European neigh-

Newbury is a strategic bottleneck -

with the vast majority of the local com-munity suffering the consequences and wanting an early resolution. The

consultative process has been pursued

to the utmost and every aspect of the

The decision has been made and the

road should be built without further

The Freight Transport Association,

Sir, You appear to imply (report, January 17) that businesses in New-

bury are against building the bypass. In fact many, particularly the larger

It is hardly surprising that the pro-testers are being rewarded with most

of the media coverage, when the daily

events around this town are little

more than a co-ordinated circus act. This corner of Berkshire and Hamp-

shire is being turned into a rural en-

vironmental slum by the hordes of un-

wanted visitors whose only intention

is to cause trouble. The great majority

of us would like to see the bypass com-

pleted and the area returned to a nor-

North End, Newbury, Berkshire.

Styles of protest

From Mr Alasdair Mitchell

Sir. While contrasting the Govern-

ment's willingness to defy Brussels over a drug for gamebirds, but not live animal exports, Leonora Digby

Smith (letter, January 18) might like to

ponder the apparent effectiveness of

reasoned argument in comparison

Hermes House, St John's Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

wasteful and costly delay.

Yours faithfully.

DAVID C. GREEN,

From Mr J. A. Castle

ones, support it.

mal existence.

Yours sincerely,

JACK CASTLE.

The Grove,

Director General,

January 19.

problem considered long and hard.

Comfort, prosperity, and the preser-

Inflation dangers of 'short-termism'

From Professor Emeritus Alan Day Sir, It is disturbing that as influential and distinguished an economic commentator as Anatole Kaletsky is advocating (Economic View, January 18) expansionary policies which, if implemented, would yet again repeat the

follies of "boom-bust".

He is probably right in identifying that public opinion is increasingly realising the disadvantages of a slow-inflation economy and forgetting these of world and completing inflathose of rapid and accelerating infla-tion. It is, however, the duty of sophisticated commentators to inform the public of the real choices rather than to accept its understandable

tendency to short-termism.

Three things have to be accepted.
One is that average real incomes cannot, in the long run, rise faster than productivity — optimistically 2.5 per cent a year in the UK. Secondly, they can rise faster than this for a time, by using up some of the margin of spare capacity. Thirdly, no one today knows how to run a major industrial economy without some such margin - in the UK broadly around 8 per cent unemployment. Any attempt to push ex-pansion of demand beyond this is likely to lead to steadily accelerating infla-tion — ie, not merely to faster inflation but to ever-faster.

For a time, the majority of the population could undoubtedly be made to feel better-off if these three factors were ignored. To the credit of the Government it is doing its best to learn the lessons and to ignore calls to adopt short-termist strategies. To Mr Blair's

credit, he appears to agree.

If either were to follow Mr Kalet-sky's policies of "several consecutive years of 4 or 5 per cent growth" most of us would feel good for a time, but the erosion of the margin of spare capacity would lead to rapidly accelerating inflation and so unavoidably to sharp increases in taxes and interest rates - repeating the unhappy consequences when another eminent economic commentator (Nigel Lawson) was given his head.

Yours faithfully, ALAN DAY, Chart Place, Chart Sutton, Maidstone, Kent. January 19.

BBC chairmanship

From Dr J. M. Wober

Sir, John Wilkinson (letter, January 15; also see letters January 11) rightly points out that in the current circumstances it will be felt that the new chairman of the BBC is a political appointee; the strains arising from this will disserve both the public and the BBC.

A way out of this difficulty would be to re-establish the governors outside the BBC. They would have a role sim-ilar to that of the Independent Television Commission vis-à-vis Channels 3, 4 and 5, in which the responsibilities of the body, informed by its staff and research unit, are to the public via Parliament instead of, as now, being a duplicate alongside the existing board of management facing the public as BBC insiders.

The "outed" body would be fin-anced (as also should the ITC) by a tiny fragment of the licence revenue; this would show that it and they are essential parts of the mechanism protecting public service broadcasting.

Yours sincerely, MALLORY WOBER (Principal lecturer), School of Media Arts and Communication. Bournemouth University, Poole House, Talbot Campus, Fern Barrow, Poole, Dorset. January 15.

Fogbound airports

From Lord Berkeley

Sir, On January 17 you reported onehour delays to all flights at Heathrow, due to fog on the previous day. This must have been a minimum figure.

I was booked that day on the BA shuttle to Glasgow. The 1415 was cancelled due to fog and and we finally got on a plane at 1630, to be greeted by an announcement that, now we were all on board, the captain had applied for a take-off slot and there was a 90-minute delay; rather more than the one hour quoted. At this stage, I jumped plane, wishing we had been told the truth about the problems and that I had gone by

These delays were apparently not due to problems with take-off or landing but to difficulties of aircraft ground movement, which is still visual - and if you can't see the end of your wing it must be difficult seeing the next plane! Oh yes, and the runway lights also failed. The general view of passengers and staff that I met was of absolute chaos, both in the airports and on the roads around.

With capacity at Heathrow due to increase dramatically if Terminal 5 comes into operation, there is an obvious need to have a foolproof ground-movement system for aircraft in fog and a full range of new public transport links in place before it opens. Otherwise, this week's chaos will, sooner or later, be repeated on a much grander scale.

TONY BERKELEY (Public Affairs Adviser, Eurotunnel), House of Lords. January 18.

Support for Newbury bypass

From Councillor Simon Melville

Sir, Mr Adrian Fisher (letter, January 19) got it wrong when he said: These self-appointed environmental pressure groups ... lost the argument at Newbury after 20 years of lobbying and ... public consultation proce-dures." They didn't take part in it.

I read with increasing anger the let-ter from Simon Lyster et al (the heads of the Wildlife Trusts, Greenpeace UK. Council for British Archaeology, World Wide Fund for Nature -- UK. Friends of the Earth and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) on the same day.

Not one of these organisations ap-peared at the public inquiry in 1988. If they had a point to make they should have taken part in the democratic public consultation process. The pub-lic inquiry looked at more than 30 different route options, lasted many weeks and several hundred submissions were made either in person or in

Newbury can only solve its local traffic problems once the through traffic has been removed from the town. The bypass currently under construc-tion will achieve this and bring relief to the environment of Newbury itself. The sooner it is completed, the better.

Yours faithfully. SIMON MELVILLE. Councillor, Burghciere Ward, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire. January 19.

From Mr George Darwall

Sir, A depressing aspect of this dispute is the sheer waste. Caring for the countryside requires manpower and money, both of which are being squandered in protests and countermeasures. Meanwhile, an estimated 80 per cent of our small woods are unmanaged, with serious implications for rare species, like the dormouse, at

If just 100 able-bodied participants (on whichever side of the protest) were to lay hedges instead, they might restore to vigour, before it is too late, over one mile of deteriorating hedgerow per day. The bonus for landscape and nature might soon outweigh the impact of a bypass which many will wel-

Yours etc, GEORGE DARWALL 116 Bradenstoke, Chippenham, Wiltshire.

From the Director General of the Freight Transport Association

Sir, No right-minded person or organisation should fail to cherish the beau-

Occupational health

From the Director General of the British Occupational Health Research Foundation

Sir, Your report (January 16) of Judge John Stephenson finding for a group of coal-miners wishing to pursue claims for industrial injury against British Coal for vibration white finger (VWF) draws attention to the overall ssue of occupational ill-health.

Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne.

50 Northumberland Avenue.

with violent protest.

Yours faithfully,

ALASDAIR MITCHELL,

being undertaken.

VWF and other occupation-related diseases account for astounding levels of financial cost and personal misery. estimated in the UK alone to affect two million people every year, to be responsible for up to 25 per cent of all absences from work (or 13 million lost working days) and to cost the equivalent of 5 per cent of all UK company

VWF is a distressing physical illness suffered by many past and present users of vibrating machinery. It is one of several occupational illnesses into which research, sponsored by this foundation and others, is currently

Repetitive strain injury, noise-induced hearing loss and now VWF have achieved high levels of recognition, but other occupational hazards such as asthma, eczema, musculoskeletal disorders and, increasingly, stress, are equally serious.

The general wellbeing, health and safety of employees are now fundamental objectives of all conscientious employers. With the support of a growing number of companies this foundation aims — through improved knowledge, education and screening
— to minimise or eliminate risk, to overcome many aspects of work-related sickness and to make tomorrow's workplace safer.

Yours faithfully, DAVID McWILLIAM. Director General, British Occupational Health Research Foundation, 9 Millbank, SW1. January 19.

Hospital future

From the Chairman of Ealing, Hammersmith and Hounslow

Health Authority Sir, The plans for Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital to build a unit at Hammersmith Hospital and combine

(article, January 16; letter, January 19) are intended to protect and enhance Queen Charlotte's. Many less prestigious maternity centres now offer accommodation

with the latter's maternity unit

which is more modern and comfortable than Queen Charlotte's. By moving onto the Hammersmith

Hospital site Queen Charlotte's re-search opportunities will be enhanced.

Sir, Far from being a matter for praise and congratulations (report and leading article, January 22), the policy adopted by the National Trust (and others) of using the buildings and locations that "star" in film and television to bolster their income through the tourist industry should in fact be of great concern.

It is alarming enough that people can frequently only be encouraged to read works of literature once they have had a visual image firmly implanted in their minds, thus depriving them of the pleasure of intimacy which only their own imaginations can bring to these works; but increasingly the parameters between fact and fiction -

tackle complex problems and bring important benefits in the NHS and internationally.

This will increase the opportunities to

The plan has the strong support of medical and other senior staff of both Queen Charlotte's and Hammersmith Hospital. They recognise that this change is needed if the pre-eminence of the hospital's services, teaching and research are to be maintained.

Yours faithfully. ECCLES of MOULTON. Chairman. Ealing, Hammersmith and Hounslow Health Authority. l Armstrong Way, Southall, Middlesex. January 19.

the "new marriage" you refer to -- are As seen on . . . becoming ever more hazy.

Escapism is one thing, but losing From Mrs Kathy Stevenson sight of the reality of our historical and literary inheritance is another.

Instead of protecting this inheritance, the National Trust is in effect creating theme parks: surely a task better left to Disney?

Yours faithfully. KATHY STEVENSON. 74 Kensington Park Road, Notting Hill, WI). January 22.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046.

Data protection rules at fault

From Dr Brian D. Keighley

Sir, I cannot be the only representa-tive of a small organisation who is infuriated by the three-yearly demand from the Data Protection agency for a fee of £75 to continue registration. understand totally that there needs to be regular income for fulfilment of statutory functions, but it is patently unfair for my medical practice of two doctors to pay the same unified fee as major companies or large govern-

ment agencies.

The DP registrar, Elizabeth France, and her predecessor, have been unable to implement reform in the shape of a stratified fee because of flaws in the primary legislation conferring the agency's powers. However, in July 1995 the EU General Data Protection Directive came into force and fresh legislation must be enacted in each member state within three years of

that date. This gives the UK an opportunity to change the arrangements so that my practice will not be charged the same fee as Marks & Spencer or the Ministry of Defence. I believe such a change would be welcomed by all small organisations, the registrar herself, and all those interested in fairness in the application of a necessary charge.

Yours etc. BRIAN D. KEIGHLEY. The Clinic, Buchanan Street, Balfron, Stirlingshire. January 14.

Auld and true

From Mr Alistair Sharp

Sir. Robert Burns, a prolific letterwriter, would surely have been de-lighted that the Royal Mail's special set of stamps being issued on January 25 to celebrate his work are prompting

letters to The Times (January 23).

The Royal Mail recognises the fact that Burns was not the originator of the song, Auld Lang Syne. Probably the earliest version of the song, Auld Kyndnes foryett, was published in

However, no version that comes close to Burns's has ever been found, so it is generally agreed it should be attributed to him. The letter to George Thomson (September 1793) does make it clear that Burns took the words down from "an old man singing", as your correspondent, Mr Mitchell. says, but virtually every line was reworked. Ironically, however, the opening line used on the 60p stamp, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot", is one of the few which remained un-

changed. The concept of the set of four stamps is to use the first lines of works made famous by Burns, to illustrate the diversity of his legacy. By reworking a traditional song Burns created what has become a universal anthem, and we think it is fitting for the song to be featured on a stamp which has an

overseas postage rate. Yours faithfully, ALISTAIR SHARP (Head of Philatelic Marketing). Royal Mail, Finsbury Square, EC2A INL January 23.

Snowboarding princes

From Mr Robi Sonderegger

Sir. Snowboarders here in Klosters were most impressed that the Prince of Wales and Prince Harry broke away from the tradition of skiing to try snowboarding ("All aboard for the new sensation". Weekend, January 13). As their instructor that day I would dispute that "snowboarders were appalled" that they did it in ski boots.

It is true that most experienced snowboarders wear soft boots, but I and many other professionals urge most beginners to start with hard boots or ski boots.

At that level the difference is practically unnoticeable, and hard boots offer beginners more support, more control and less risk of ankle injury. Leaning forward on snowboards is one of the hardest things for beginners and the design of ski boots can help with this.

The ski boots of the Prince of Wales hardly hindered him from picking up the sport. I was most impressed at his

confidence and posture. Riding snowboards which, contrary to your report, can go much faster than skis, requires guts and a sense of adventure, especially for the not so young. I give the Prince of Wales and his incredibly fast-learning son (who was also wearing ski boots) great praise for their performance.

Thank you, and very best wishes, ROBI SONDEREGGER, Ski and Snowboardschule Saas. Landstrasse 15, 7252 Klosters Dorf. Switzerland. January 19.

Back soon?

From Mr Norman E. Bagshaw

Sir, My geography teacher used to say that the sirocco returns every year. As a loyal customer and shareholder of Forte, I look forward to Sir Rocco's return to the hotel scene.

NORMAN BAGSHAW. 59 Clement Road, Marple Bridge, Stockport, Greater Manchester. January 23.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK January 24: The Queen. Honorary Air Commodore, this morning visited Royal Air Force Marham and was received by the Station Commander (Group Captain John Broadbenti.

Her Majesty mer station person-nel and their families and local schoolchildren before opening the new Aircraft Refinishing Facility. The Queen afterwards attended Reception for All Ranks and

civilians in the Sergeants' Mess and honoured the Station Com-mander with her presence at Luncheon in the Officers' Mess. This afternoon Her Majesty observed station personnel carrying out exercises in response to a

BUCKINGHAM PALACE January 24: The Prince Edward, Chairman, The Duke of Edin-burgh's Award Special Projects Group, this evening held a meet-ing at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, Past President, the Lord's Taverners, later attended the Umpires' Dinner at the London Hillon. Park Lane.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE January 24: The Duke of Kent. Vice-Chairman, British Overseas Trade Board, today presented the British Chamber of Commerce Scroll of Appreciation to Mr Paul Ceuvorsi at York House, St James's Palace, Lundon SWI.

Birthdays today

The Rev Professor G.W. Anderson, theologian, 83; Mrs Cory Aquino, former President of the Phil-ippines. 63: Sir Tom Arnold, MP. 49; Mr Raymond Baxter, writer and brnadcaster, 74; Viscount Blakenham, 58; the Most Rev Dermot Clifford, Archbishop of Cashel and Emly, 57; Vice-Admiral Sir David Clutterbuck, 83; the Earl of Coventry, 62; Miss Emma Freud, brundeaster, 34, Sir Paul Girolami, former chairman. Glaxo Holdings. 70; Mr Brian Hayes. Deputy Commissioner, Metropolitan Police, 50: Lord tliffe, 88: Professor G.E.R. Lloyd, Master. Darwin College. Cambridge, 63; Sir James Mellon, diplomat, 67; Sir David Nicholas, former chairman and chief executive, ITN, 66; Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead, 63: Mr William O'Brien, MP, 67: Air Commodore A.A. Reed, former director, RAF Nursing Services, on: Mr David Shattock, Chief Constable, Avon and Somerset, 60: Mr Tom Shebbeare, director, the Prince's Trust and the Royal Jubilee Trusts, 44: Miss Angela Thorne, actress, 57; Professor Edward Ullendorff, former Professur of Ethlopian Studies, 76: Ad-miral Sir Peter White, 77.

Royal engagements The Princess Royal, as President of

the British Olympic Association, will attend the Midlands division dinner for the British Olympic uppeal at the Sports and Social complex of Vauxhall Motors, Lunn. at 7.30. The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron.

of the Pattenmakers' Company. will attend the annual dinner at the Mansion House at 7.20. The Duchess of Gloucester attend a reception given by the British College of Optometrists at Guildhall at 7.15, to mark the granting of a Royal Charter of Incorporation

Luncheon

Lord Goold Lord Goold, President of the International Corporate Identity Group and Chairman of Court. Stratholyde University, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at the House of Lords to mark the launch of ICIG. Mr Clive Chajet und Professor Stephen Grevser of Harvard Business School also **BUCKINGHAM PALACE** January 24: The Princess Ruyal, Colonel-in-Chief, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, today visited the 1st Battalion at Lucknow Barracks, Tidworth, Hampshire. Her Royal Highness this after-

noon arrived at Royal Air Force Aldergrave and was received by the Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service (Sir David Fell). The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this

evening attended a Private Appeal Dinner at Hillshorough Cast KENSINGTON PALACE January 24: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Pa-

rinn, Inday visited London Lighthouse, Lancaster Road, London, WII, for the launch of the programme of events to mark its anniversary year.

Lectures

Professor Henry Roseveare deliv-ered the Sir Lionel Denny lecture, sponsored by the Barbers Company, at the Museum of London last night. Professor Donald Barltrop. Master, presided, as-sisted by Mr R.R.C. Bloomfield. Upper Warden, and Mr A.J.B. Missen, Middle Warden. Institution of Mechanical

Mr Charles Betts delivered the annual Thomas Lowe Gray lecture yesterday at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. Mr F. Chris Price, president, was in the

Dinner Chartered Accountants

Mr J.M. Renshall. Muster of the Chartered Accountants' Company assisted by Mr W.S.C. Richards assisted by Mr W.S.C. Richards, Senior Worden, and Mr G.H. Kingsmill. Junior Warden, presided at the winter dinner held last night at Drapers' Hall. Sir David Walker, the Senior Warden and Mr Daniel Hodson also spoke. The Town Clerk and Chamber iain, City of London Corporation, and the Masters of the Solicitors', Master Mariners' and Upholders Companies were among the

Coningsby Club

The Hon Peter Brooke, CH. MP. presided at a dinner of the Coningsby Club held last night at the Carlton Club. Mr Jeremy the committee, were the hosts. Mr Max Hastings. Editor of the Evening Standard, was the guest of honour and speaker.

Uppingham School The Chapel Choir will perform the Duruffe Requiem in Westminste Abbey on Sunday, February 4, at 5.30pm. Former pupils and other friends of the school are welcome

Today's events

Horse Guards at 11,00,

to attend. Tickets are not required

The Queen's Life Guard mounts at



Trafalgar Park, once under threat from dry rot and developers, will become a venue for rehearsal and concerts

Country house reborn as home of opera

BY MARCUS BINNEY ARCHITECTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE country house a grateful nation gave to the family of the hero of Trafalgar has been bought by an opera impresario. Michael Wade plans to use Trafalgar Park, near Salisbury, as a centre to nurture young singers and musicians after they leave

Mr Wade said: "My plan is to encourage companies to use the house for their annual weekend retreats and to sponsor public concerts. This way the sponsors will meet the singers and musicians which they rarely do and ticket prices will be kept

Mr Wade wants to create a 250-seat concert hall in the north wing and eventually to

DOZENS of dead babies,

found among the ruins of a

Roman villa, may have been

victims of an ancient epidem-

ic. Anaemia and malaria are

both possible causes of the

deaths, which occurred 1,500

The villa, at Lugnano in

Umbria, was built in the 2nd

century and abandoned in the

3rd. Two centuries later its

an infant cemetery, according

to Professor David Soren of

the University of Arizona and

"Forty-seven children were

buried amid the partly col-

lapsed walls of five rooms,"

they say in Archaeology.

Twenty-two were foetuses,

probably miscarriages, eigh-

teen were newborn, six were

four to six months and one

buried in old wine amphorae.

others on reused roof tiles.

Infant mortality was probably

25-30 per cent in normal times,

Some of the babies were

was two or three years old."

his wife Noelle.

years ago in central Italy.

vest the house in a music trust. An inaugural concert at the weekend by Opera Interludes in the rococo hall was attended by guests including Sir Edward Heath. Richard Baker and Jilly Cooper. On Nelson's death in 1805,



Child cemetery tells grim tale

By Norman Hammond, archaeology correspondent

and would have soared during

Premature infants appear

to have been buried with little or no care," the Sorens say. "Romans believed that child-

ren who died before nine days

should not be lamented or

Most of the babies seem to

have been buried within a

short period, perhaps only a

tern of interment, with single

bodies being followed by

groups of up to seven, "leads

us to believe that a few deaths

led to the creation of the

Then more babies died or

were miscarried: an epidemic

that first struck a few inlants

and then spread rapidly, kill-

ing many and causing women

to miscarry. We will know how the adults were affected

when we find their cemetery."

the burials may have been

sacrificed in a ritual intended

to calm evil forces: in Roman

DEATHS

Puppies found with some of

cemetery", they say,

buried with great ceremony."

epidemics.

Wade: hopes to create

his immediate heir was his elder brother the Rev William Nelson, who succeeded him as Duke of Bronté and was created Earl Nelson of Trafalgar. The gift of Trafalgar to the Nelson family in 1814 parallels the grant of the royal manor of Woodstock to the Duke of Mariborough and the Stratfield Saye estate to the Duke of Wellington.

After the ruinous expense of building Blenheim Palace at Woodstock, Parliament shied away from providing a grand new mansion for either Wellington or Nelson and instead purchased the Standlynch estate south of Salisbury, with an imposing mid-18th century pink brick house with large flanking wings in the manner of the architect

According to Country Life:

times the bereft mother was

considered unclean, and the

child's soul a dangerous force.

A raven's claw and a toad

found with other children may

have also been intended to

shown traces of porotic hyper-

ostosis, a response to anaemia

But malaria was widespread

in the 5th century AD - and

Burnt honeysuckle seeds in

the cemetery support the the-

sis that malaria was the killer.

These suggest that the epidem-

ic took place in summer, the

peak season for malaria. The

herb could have been used in

prove our malaria hypothesis

with present technology," the Sorens say. "Yet it is clear that

something terrible happened to those Umbrian infants that

☐ Source: Archaeology 48 No

summer in the 5th century."

There may be no way to

Study of the bones has

ward off spirits.

Italy until the 1950s.

have been chosen." Pronouncing the name of the house in the same way as Trafalgar Square in London raises eyebrows in Wiltshire where the gar rhymes with car. After the Nelson family sold Trafalgar in 1948, the house was separated from the surrounding estate and left with only seven acres of land. The north wing was eaten up by dry rot and developers were seeking permission to build in the grounds when Mr Wade bought the house late last year.

Proposing a vote of thanks at the inaugural concert, Sir Edward Heath recalled: "My love of opera was born when I first saw Carmen in Paris aged 13. In the next box was a very beautiful lady whose shoulder strap slipped a little further with every dramatic turn in the plot."

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: St Edmund Campion, Jesuit martyr, London, 1540; Robert Boyle, chemist, Lissmore, Co Waterford, 1627; Joseph Lagrange, mathematician, Turin, 1736; Robert Burns, poet. Alloway, 1759: Sir Francis Burdett, politician, 1770: William McGillivray, naturalist, Old Aberdeen, 1796; John Arbuth-not Fisher, 1st Baron Fisher, admiral of the fleet, Ceylon, 1841; william Somerset Maugham, nov-elist and dramatist, Paris, 1874; Virginia Woolf, novelist and critic, London, 1882; Wilhelm Furrvängler, conductor, Berlin, 1886: Witold Lutoslawski, composer, Warsaw, 1913.

DEATHS: Robert Burton, author of Anatomy of Melancholy, Oxford, 1640; William Shield, composer, London, 1829; Dorothy Wordsworth, writer. Rydal, Cum-bria, 1855: Frederic Leighton, President of the Royal Academy 1878-96. Kensington, 1896. King Edward III acceded to the throne, 1327.

The League of Nations was founded, 1919.

Legal appointments John Graham Boggis, QC, and Fergus Irvine Mitchell to be circuit judges, assigned to the Midland and Oxford Circuit and the South stern Circuit respectively.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.C.D. Ash and Miss H.C. Briggs
The engagement is announced between Jolyon, son of Mr Brian

MARTIN BEDDALL

Ash, of Reading, and Mrs Marie Ash, of East Sheen, and Hilary, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Briggs, of Eynsham, Oxfordshire. Mr R.P.C. Bridgeman and Miss A.M. Moncaster

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Bridgeman, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire, and Alice, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Moncaster, of Layer Marney, Essex

Mr J.E. Buckley and Miss E.K. Pybus The engagement is announced between John, elder son of Mr and Mrs Roger Buckley, of Willaston, Wirral, and Kate younger daughter of Mr and Mrs William Pybus, of Throwleigh, Devon.

Mr D.N.S. Chapman The engagement is announced between Neville, son of Canon and

Mrs Derek Chapman, of Sedles-combe. East Sussex, and Charmian, daughter of the late Mr Stuart Brodie and of Mrs Gillian Brodie, of Little Hedgeholme, Co

Mr N. Cox and Miss K.R. Secker The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Professor and Mrs Antony Cox. of Wensley, Derbyshire, and Kitty, daughter of Mr and Mrs Adrian Secker, of Iver. Buckinghamshire.

Dr D.A. Cruse and Mrs J.C. Latter Dr Denis Cruse of Haileybury in Hertfordshire and Mrs Julia Latter (née Tibbs) of Lamberhurst in Kent are delighted to announce that they will be marrying in April.

Mr P.R. GIII and Miss S.M. Keane The engagement is announced between Peter, son of the late Mr David Gill and of Mrs Kenneth Smith, of Melbourne, Victoria, and Susan, daughter of the late Mr John Keane and of Mrs Keane, of

Mr S.R. Hastilow and Miss L.S.K. Pride The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Captain R.G. Hastilow, CBE, RN, and Mrs Hastilow. of Liss. Hampshire, and Louisa, daughter of Mr and Mrs B.W. Pride, of Stone-in-Owney. Tenterden, Kent. Mr V.C. Ives and Miss R.M. Teesdale

and mass k.m. recodate
The engagement is announced
between Vaughan, elder son of the
late Mr and Mrs Lewis Ives, of
Poole: Dorset, and Rosalind,
second daughter of Mr and Mrs
John Teesdale, of Whitminster,
Clingspatesthire Glaucestershire.

Mr N.P. Storer and Miss C.E. Dove The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Dr and Mrs John Storer, of Blewbury, Oxfordshire, and Carrie, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Dove, of Falls Church, Virginia, USA.

Mr W.D. Symington and Miss J.P. Booth The engagement is announced between William, elder son of Mr and Mrs D.A. Symington, and Juliet, daughter of Sir Christopher Booth and of Dr Lavinia Loughridge.

Mr CJ, Wilkins and Miss M.S. Hamilton The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mrs Claire Wilkins, of Haslemere, Surrey, and Madeleine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Stewart Hamilton, of Hollow Meadows,

Mr P.S. Wollocon and Miss S.L. Harrison The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs Martin Wollocombe, of Quito,

Ecuador, and Sophie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Harrison, of Itchen Stoke Mill. Alresford, 3. Marriage Mr R.A.D. Breadhead and Mrs J.H. Smith

The marriage took place

Jill Smith, (née Proudlove).

London, on January 24, 1996, between Anthony Broadhead and

Church news

The Rev Robert Bashford, Assistant Curate, Galleywood, St Michael and All Angels (Chelmsford): to be the incumbent, Clapham (St

The Rev Julia Butterworth, Team Vicar, Whitstable St Andrew (Canterbury): to be also an Honorary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral.

Carperral.
The Rev Quentin Chandler, Assistant Curate, Goldington (St. Albans): to be Minister of St Peter's, Rushden (Peterborough).
The Rev Jeremy Clark King, Curate Rev Clark King, Curate Rev Clark King, Curate Re The New Jeremy Clark-King, Cirate, Ledbury parish church (Herelord): to be part-time Gurate, Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge, and Chaplain of Girton College, Cambridge (Ely).

The Rev Dr Michael Cooke, NSM, Christ church, Beckenham: to be

Priest-in-charge, St Lawrence, Seal and St Margaret, Underriver The Rev Dori Dawes, Assistant Curate, Watford, St Mary: to be Priest-in-charge, Dunton w. Wrestlingworth and Eyeworth (St

The Rev Canon Christine Farrington, Assistant Curate, St Mary the Great, Cambridge to be Vicar, St Marks, Cambridge and continue as Diocesan Co-Director of Ordinands and Women's Min-

istry (Elv). The Rev Gordon Fisher, Vicar, Marton-in-Cleveland (York): to be Rector, St Peter and St Paul, Kettering (Peterborough). The Rev George Fryer, Priest-incharge, St Peter's, Walsden: to be also Priest-in-charge, St Michael and All Angels, Comholme The Rev Brendan Giblin, Assistant Curate, Tadcaster w. Newton Kyme: to be Rector, Stockton-on-the-Forest w. Holtby and Warthill

The Rev Penelope Graysmith. Assistant Curate, Cannock Team Ministry: to be Assistant Chaplain. Stafford District General Hospital The Rev Keith Hale, Priest-in-

charge, Tankersley and of Thurgoland and Wortley: to be Vicar, Tankersley, Thurgoland and Wortley (Sheffield).
The Rev Noelle Hall, Priest-incharge, St Mary, Sittingbourne and Assistant Director of Post Ordination Training (Canterbury):
to be also an Honorary Canon of Contembring Cartesley.

Canterbury Cathedral.
The Rev John Hargreaves, Assistant Chaplain General, HM
Prison Service to be Rector, Stone St Michael (Lichfield). The Rev Gien Hocken.

James, South Leigh (Oxford): to be Assistant Curate. St Michael, Boldmere (Birmingham).

The Rev Christopher Hugher Team Vicar, Wombourne Team Ministry: to be Team Rector, Wombourne Team Ministry, The Rev lan Johnson, Curate,

Evington, Leicester: to be Assistant Priest, w. special responsibility for Foxion and Gumley; and Substitute Chaplain to HM Prison. The Rev David Laurender Merbark

ist Member of the Central Telford Team Ministry: to be Churches Development Officer and Ecumenical Officer, Central Telford Team Ministry (Lichfield).

PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

BMDS: 0171 782 7272 PERSONAL COLUMN

The tast who is to bep Hoty Spart". John 1: 33 (REE).

BIRTHS BAINTON - On Japuary 23rd in Orderd, to Amabei and John Vernon Bambon, a son. DALEYSELE - On January 18th, to Janey (see Monta) and Hewa a daughter. Lydin Jane Diana Hargilton, a stder for Hero. Hewie and Theophania

Theophania.

DAVIES - On 23rd January

1996 at Queen Charlotte's, to
Aspeta and Lloyd, a son,
Horvey Jackson Paul.

MERLITZ - On January 20th

The Devitions Homital Devition

sister for Duncan.
O'CONNOR - On January
17th 1996 at The Portland
Hospital, in Debbie and Dez.
a beautiful son, Jacob Lewis,
a brother for Jordan.
PARHAM - On 22nd January,
to Kasta unée Gedruyć) and
Pality, a son, John Casimir,
PARKER - On January 19th,
to Jeanton thée Harrin) and
Adriam, a daughter, Georgia, Adrian, a daughter, Georgia, a stater for Eather and

SANDERSON - On 6th January at The Portland Hospital, to Damaris (nee Masson-Taylor) and Tim, a son, Alexander Edward and Maximilian.
SMFPER - On January 20th in North Yorkshire, to Lisa the Botarrol and Stophen, a son, Senjamin James.
SMFPER - On January 7th, in Worcestershire, to Anne tube Hilton) and Richard, a daughler, Luxy Georgina, a sister toy Cityte.
SWFEREY - On January 22th at The Portland Haspitzi, to Adrian and Mary, a son, Jack Adrian and Mary, a son, Jack Adrian a brother for

Many, a son, Jack Adrian Citison, a brother for Thomas WILLOUGHEY - On January 20th 1996 in Demotricables, to Fiona and Guy, a daughter, Eritres, a sister for

DEATHS ARMES/O'BEIRNE BARNES/O'BEIRNE
Midred Mariorie (née Mills),
widow of Hehry Barnes
(O'Beirne), on 23rd January
peacetality at home aged 92.
Sadly adseed by her loving
family. Funerai at
Cambridge Crematorium
2.16 pm on Monday 29m
January. R.I.P.

BATCHELOR - Mary Frances (née Gilbert) of Ham Common. Surrey. Suddently but peacefully in hospital on 19th January aged 55. Dearly have modern of Suise and a loving friend to many. Funeral at St. Andrew's Church. Ham Common. Monday 29th January at 2nm. Denations. If desired. by the British Heart Foundation. BLACK - Jean (nie innes-Ker

on James (see missiver) on James 22nd suddenly after a short filmes. Beloved wife of Barry and dearly loved mother of Nicola and grandmother of Alastair. Cremation private. Memorial SUSBY - On 20th January

20th January
1996 peacefully in hoselfal.
Ernest Busby, M.B.E.,
LM.S.S.A. Okon), aged 96
years, Belowed brother of
Doris and Vera. Funeral
Service at Eastbourne
Crematorium Family Chapel
on Wednesday 31st January
at 12.45 pm. Family flowers
only, douations # desired to
Historic Churches
Preservation Trust. only, donations if des Historic Chu Preservation Trust.

CLARSE - On January 4th, Nancy Inte Cadmant, widow of Colin, mother of Peter and Janet. Cremation has laken place. Letters to Mass Janet Clarke c/o Smith. Whittingham, Solicitors. I Dysart Buildings, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 50P.

CURRY - On 13th James y 1996 at 21 Course Houses, 25th Joseffe Therese seed 66 years, formerly Sentor Secretary at the BBC. Doughter of the late Charles and Resy Curry, Funeral Service at West London Cramatorium, Harrow Road, London WiC, on Wadnester 7th February 1996 at 2.15pm. Enquires to John Nodes Funeral Service, 181 Ladbroke Grove, London WiO, bet 10181) 969-1819.

DEATHS DAWSON - John Trever
"Getty" on Tuesday 23rd
January, much loved
husband of Margaret, Rober
of Christopher and Theodity;
grandfather of Eather.
Ursula. Jeanot and
Fitzwilliam. Funeral St
Edward's Church, Keyner.
11.30 am. Wednesday 31st
January. Enguiries. William
Collins F/D. tel: (01444)
871518.

EVERSLEY - On January 19th, Eleanor, eldest daughter of the late William Pinder Eversley, Requient Mam to be beld at English Martyn Guurch, Mitcham Lese, Swife, on Thursday, 1st February at 9.30am, followed by cremation at the South London Crematorium. Rowan Road, Swife at 11am, Donations, if desired, to St Marry's Heme c/o Dowsen & Jenkins Pumma Directors, 7 Sunnyshii Road, Streatham, Swife 2UE, (D181) 769-3181.

FARNELL - On January 19th 1996, Angela. much loved wire of Michael. Cremation for family and friends at Golders Green Crematorium on Monday 29th January 1996 at 3 pm. No flowers please but donations to Elderly Accommodalion Counsel, 46A Chiswick High Road, London Wa 1SZ - the charity founded by Angela. Date for municial service will be amnounced better.

Fift - Anne Lady Fift.
January 23rd. 1996. died
pencefully with her Emily
after a long illness. Beloved
wite of Gerry, and invine
mother to Joan. Elleen.
Patty, Betty and Geraldine.
Much missed by her son-shlaw: Vincent, Paul Skephen.
Much missed by her son-shlaw: Vincent, Paul Skephen.
and Maritan. and by her 12
adored francichtlichen. She
was the light of all our tive,
may perpetual light shines
upon her. Requisem Mass at
the Charlot of St Turesa.
Ashford. Kend at 10 am on
Fifday January 28th.
Interness at the church of St
Lawrence. Godmersham.
11.30 cm.

DEATHS JOHNSON - On 23rd January 1996 Elizabeth (Betty). Church service on Monday 5th February at Al Sahth Church, Blackhesth, 10sm, followed by cremation at Lewisham Crematorium. 11am, No flowers by request, Donations to St Christopher's Hospice, Enquiries to Francia Campell & Sons, 4 Lee High Road, Lewisham, SE13 ELQ, tek (0181) 852-2936.

Monday 22nd January
1996, in Heiston, Cornwal,
Formerly of Crockerton,
Warminster. Willshire.
Husband of Pam (decessed),
A devoted father and
grandfather to Keith, Jacke,
Nic. Joanna and Lisa.
Cremetton in Truro, then
return in be with the beloved
wife in Horningsham,
Wilshire. MANCHESTER - Andrea

MARCHESTER - Andrea. Widow of the 11th Doke of Manchester. On January 21st. suddenly at home, much loved mother and grandmother. Private cremation, 26th January. Nairobi. Kenya. UK Menorial Service to be amounced.

MOSENTHAL John William On 22nd January 1996 pencetally at house Bill. dear husband of Daphne and father of Verity (Jeffery). Max and John and a much loved grandfaller. Fuseral at the Parish Church of St Mary Machaleus. Externate at the param Causto of M Mary Magdaleve, Richmond, on Friday 2nd February 1996 at 12 noon, No Bowers please but any donations may be sent to Princes Alice Hospice, Esher c/o T.H Sanders & Sons, 28-30 Kew Road, Richmond, TW9 2NA

MICHQLS - Kenneth John Heastey, On January 24th, peacethily at King Edward VII Hospital for Officers. Beloved inselsand of Pamela and dearly loved inther, grandiather and friend, Private family funeral, Thankagiving Service to be automized later. OLIVER - On 20th January 1996 and 77, David Ware Oliver, Architect, intely of Sath, Funeral at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Monday 29th January at

PROTHERO - Dorothy Natile, on 19th January 1996, at Blackbeath Hospital aged 63 years. Beloved wife of Arthur, much loved by all her faraged and many friends. Funeral Service at Lewisham Cremetrym. Verdeat Laws. Funeral Service at Lawitham Crematorium. Verbant Lame. Cationd SE6 on Friday 2nd February at 12 stone. Frinkly Indonesia only. Donations if desired to National Equestrian Defence League or Cats Protection Langue may be sent to Cooperative Funeral Services. 172 Well Half Road. 27thum. E29 dSR. 1st: (01.81) 850-1677.

REED - Whited Hamid (Wilf), studienly on Sunday marring 21st Jammy 1996, aged 74 years. A loving and greatly loved husband, interested grandfather, Fuperal Wednaday Jist Jammy 12 noon at St Paul's Church, Chichester. By request flowers from lunediate lamily only. Dosations in remembrance of Wilf for St Joseph's Hostel for the Homeless. Chichester and the British Heart Foundation REED - Wilfred Harold (WIII) Frinces. Crucresus and the British Heart Foundation pay be sent c/o F.A. Holland & Son. 3 Jubilee Road. Chichester Pols 1XJ, tel: (01243) 782965.

REPO - Resementy Mace (Milv), widow of LL Col. J.W. Raid, 19th Lancers), pencarally on January 21st, Family functal to be arranged. Ne flowers please but domethous. imeral to be arranged. No flowers please but domestions. If desired, to North of England Children's Canoer Research c/o Prof. A. Craft. R.V.I., Newcastle-Upon-Type, NEI 80T.

EUSERIDGE - Col. Charles Edward Rustriage. O.B.E., R.E.M.E. on 22nd January et Mengure Perk Hospital, Tauston. In his 94th year. As officer and a petitleman, Beloved husband of Elma and a beloved lather and grandfather. Pinaret Sarvice at the Parish Church of St. January. Family flowers only please, doubtons if degred for the Army Benevolent Fund c/o Anthony James Funeral Director. 30 Lion d'Angent. Ford Road. Wivelisconhe, Sonoerset.

DEATHS NYLAMED - Nancy Pameia of Flustali, Bromsgrove. On January 24th 1996, in her Sist year, Belovad wife of the lake Liewellyn Winder and Jennie. devoted grandmother of James, Heldi, Marie, Junette and Marianne. Funeral at 13.05pm Tuestay January 30th at St Bartholomew's Church. Tardebigge, nr. Bromsgrove, followed by private cremation at

Brunsgrove, roccover of private cremation at Redditch Crematorium at 2pm. Donations to the Imperial Cancer Research. Reported Cancer Research.

288608 - Careth. et. 275 59dm

RAF and Kent leacher.
formerly of Maester.
secontally aged 72 et home
on 20th leather.
Petrolity aged 72 et home
on 20th leather, efter long
lithess bravely borne.
Beloved Rusbeand of Kay.
Bether of the Mark. Ruth.
Paul and Helen. Pummil et.
All Saints. Loose, nr.
Muldstone, on Thersday 1st
February et 12.45 pm. No
Govers by request donations
to RAF Benevolent Pund. 67
Portland Place. London W1.

Portand Place. London Wi.
SMITH - Edina Mavis Cordon.
on 22nd January 1996.
peacetolity at home. Beloved
wise of Robert Grenville.
mother of Juden.
Sadly missed by her
grandchildren. Funeral
Service at S Jude's Church.
Englefield Green, Monday
29th January at 11.50 am
108swed by cummittal in
Englefield Green Cemelury.
Any Eorel cributes to F.
Hantison & Son. let (01786)
432163.

SOWRY - Pamela Madeleli SOWNY - Purcela Madeline Affaction on January 21st, at Salisbury District Hospital, affar a short Diseas. Beloved mother of Diseas and Julian and grandmother of James, Peter and Devid. Funeral Service at Salisbury Cramstorium on Friday 2nd February at 11.40 am. Family flowers only. Doustions, if desired, to The Salisbury Hospice, to The Salisbury Hospice, to The Salisbury Hospice, to Cocke STARLEY - Burt, On 22nd

DEATHS

WILLIE - Frances Mor

FUNERAL

TAYLOR - Major General TAYLOR - Major General Reynell, on Montay 22nd Jamary 1996, suddenly at home. Very much loved husband of Rocemary, father of Mark, Hearlette and Simon and grandfather of Louist and Sarnaby, Private crenation, followed by Memorial Service at St James Parith Casarch, Halle, Taunion, on Friday 2nd February at 2 pm. Family Rovers only but domains if wished for the R.N.L.L. may be emit of Androny James Funeral Director, 30 Lion of Andrers. Ford Road, Wiveliscombs, Somerael.

ARRANGEMENTS FELLOWS - Howard Alwarn.
The Service of Translayating
will take place at AR Santa
Church, Sproughton, Saffoir
on Monday Japanery 29th at
3 pm. Family Bowers only
please, but it dealered
donations towards
respiratory research payable Jameny, a very special and much loved hustend, father and grandfather. Service on 24th January at 3.50 pm, South London Comstery, Streathern Vale.

WARRING - Kurin, soddeniy at home in Emeringham or-January 23rd 1996. Cremation 2 pm on Tuesday 30th January at 5: Faith's Crematorium, Norwich (meer Airport), Faithly flowers only. Donations in Kurin's memory to Age Concern.

Sealy), wife of the late Anthony Armstrong OBE MC Author and Playwright: peacefolly at Ludshott Cour N/H on January 19th 1990 in her 96th year. Dearly leved by her 3 Children, 10 grandchildren and 11 cress. grandchildren mid 11 gren grandchildren mid 11 gren grandchildren. Cremation a Guildhoof on More on January 306 No flowers but denotions desired to Hankemere Distri-Hospital

> DOMESTIC & CATERING STITUATIONS

SERVICES

SITUATIONS

specialist legas recruitment or beeks a recruitment coresition to work with and heat to deve oping its Anterelimian client un captificate bases. The successifi spelicate with be a solicitor with the control of the control of the control oping to the control of the control oping to the control oping

amplicate with he a sufficient with 2 to 3 yangs experience in comparting the baseline with the partial baseline and the partial with here a substitution in the partial partial the legal filteractal and commercial markets in Australia and the Par East Repty Sect No 3124

VACANT

HEAD CHEF -PERSIAN FOOD A postificious restament in London W2 requires a Head Clef specializing in Persian Combas Heat have lichten management experience. Live-in or out position, Salery sessettishin Compatt Jay: 0471

FLATSHARE TICKETS FOR SALE BATTERESA Ps. Prof m/f n/ stere mud hee. all streps, of EE2 pw. 0171 731 2281. TICKETS FOR SALE When responding to advertisements readers are advised to readers are advised to readers are advised to read readers are advised before entering into any ent CLAPHAM COSSISSON Prof per-son. Mon-Fri cally, own recent & bathers, share let, benefy hes. £280 pep. 0171-720 8857. CLAPHAM SOUTH Room to confide hes. 5 mine tabe, all med come. 0181 6784615 (west FLATMATES Locion's Avenuest Gal 1970; Professional flot sharing service. 0171-589 5491

COTTANTY ROOM IN CONSTITUTION CAN INCOME THE COLOR THROUGH AND STORE, AND PARTIES OF THE CASE 6 MATIONE RUCBY ERIC CLAPTON 694FLY RED. TINA TURNER, BON JOYL SON JOYA BRILE SPRINGSTEEN BEVERDANCE CROUE DU BOLEO, CHANTON, SUNSET ALL POP, THE JOYANTE SPORTING EVENTE SPORTING EVENTE SW7 Cay prof to share fact own room and emplie. £110 pw psp. Tel: 0171 376 1426. TEL: 0171 323 4480 PLUMP PARTNERS Named Declary Agency. If you as plump or prefer a binste per ner ring 01302 716909.

ALL TICKETS 5 Nations Rugby 96 All matches systable Simply Red, Clepton River Dance, Settimber Phantom, Surset etc. We obtain the unobtainable 0171 403 9555

AE OC's, Pres Delivery

TICKETS

TICKETS (Bought & Seld) Rughy 5 Nations Any Ticket obtained 0171 488-4414

ACCESS TICKETS SOLD OUT EVENTS 5 Nations Rugby
Eric Clapton
and all major pop ahor
All theatre tickets
the Phantom etc. Call as Now ! Tel: 0171 821 6616

FAX: 0171 481 9313 TICKETS FOR SALE ALL AVAIL: Phenion, at the stre, S. Red, T. Turner of pop. Rughy, all sport 0171 480 6183 MATTORS Rugby 96" Tichels Wanted for all metches Tel: 0171 929 8622/ F: 929 8483

TRADE: 0171 481 1982

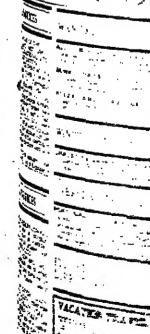
FOR SALE MORNING SUITS DINNER SUTTS EVENING TAIL SUITS LPMAN & SONS West End Tel 0171 240 2310

22 Charing Cross Rd WC2 City Tel 0171 623 7721 156 Fenchurch St 5C3 HE TRADS - 1791-1996 other titles avadiable. Ready for pre-centation - also "Sundays". Remember When, 0481-668

RENTALS CHELSEA, LUMMY 1 dile bed
first all new of lot. Comm gen
ESSO pv. 0373 373 3805.
EARLSPELD SW17 ungl ren in
cheerful med fine for prof ou/f
phy/comm gen. Ne hape get use
Elsev hells ESSOgem Day 1
partit. n/L 0381 946 4217 Auty FW GAPP Gamaperson Services) Ltd Require properties in control, south a west London areas for watting applicates. Tel: 0371 243 0964. CENSENGTON, LXX I bed fint. garden eq. cise tabe, L/f & equip. £260pm, Drugy 017; 379 4816

MAYFAIR/ST JAMES, 2/3+4 both in new development, From 6375 per 0317 369, 1386. RECHRECKED, became 2 bad fini. from, close SR, bros & park. 52405W 0371 379 4816.

صكذا من الأصل



* (Z

a transfer

OBITUARIES

Eric Briault, CBE, Education Officer of the Inner London Education Authority, 1971-76, died on January 14 aged 84. He was born on December 24, 1911.

ERIC BRIAULT'S career in education led him from teaching to inspecting to administrating, and culminated in five years, during the early 1970s, as Education Officer of the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA). Those who met him were struck by his intelligence and cool logic. But beneath this he was a warm man, and he promoted the needs of handicapped children and the careers of numerous young men and women. His influence on teaching stretched far beyond the confines of London.

Briault was a visionary, but while he was unafraid of controversy, and actively pursued his ideal of the large comprehensive school, he never failed to offer consultation. He played a central role at the London County Council and ILEA from the 1940s to the 1970s, during what some have described as the golden age in London's educational story — one marked by the harmonious working together of education officers, inspectors and teachers. Later he sought to extend this partnership to parents.

Eric William Henry Briault was the son of a master jeweller. Brought up in Brighton, he won a scholarship from Brighton and Hove Grammar School to Peterhouse, Cambridge. He read history, before switching to geography, and got a first. He was also an excellent athlete. In 1933 he won a Blue, being placed second in the Varsity threemiles, and in the previous two years he won half-blues for cross-country

running. From Cambridge he went straight into teaching, counting himself fortu-nate to get a job at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Barnet - even though that school could not afford to pay the allowance normally given to those holding first-class degrees. Here he proved a natural teacher, inspiring children not only in the classroom, but in athletics and cross-country running. He persuaded the headmaster, governors and groundsman to build a steeplechase water-jump for pupils.

In 1935 Briault married his teenage

ERIC BRIAULT



sweetheart, Marie Knight, At this time he was spending many hours walking the Sussex countryside, researching the land utilisation. He was awarded a PhD in 1939, being partly responsible for the Sussex edition of Dudley Stamp's original series of county books, which for the first time studied all aspects from geology through to present day usage of the

In 1937 he left Queen Elizabeth Grammar School to become head of. geography at Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith. There, too, he revolutionised not only geography teaching but athletics and cross-coun-

try running. He was a convinced Christian pacifist, and he led pupils on "farming camps" during the war years. By 1947 he had become one of the most respected schoolboy athletics coaches in the South East of England.

His ambition had originally been to become a headmaster. Many of his former pupils from these years thought that he should never have left teaching. But, as he was now recognising, the fact of having registered as a conscien-tious objector effectively closed the door on any such prospect. When in 1948 one of his colleagues drew his attention to an advertisement for an inspector of geography in the service of the London County Council, he applied for it and, rather to his surprise, found himself appointed. Being initially also district inspector for Lambeth brought him into contact with underprivileged

He was honorary secretary of the Royal Geographical Society for ten years, 1953-63, and increasingly became one of the country's field-work experts. Having started with pupils, he now led expeditions and courses for teachers. His speed of walking, especially in mountains, began to provide the stuff of legends.

in 1956 he was promoted to Deputy Education Officer of the LCC, much to the annoyance of those who had come up a purely administrative route. Having previously been asked to chair the relevant committee, he was obviously already interested in the development of comprehensive schools and his own extensive experience as a teacher, and knowledge of the education system, made him the ideal figure to have charge of the reorganisation of inner London's secondary schools.

After he became Education Officer in 1971 of what by then had become the Inner London Education Authority, he was responsible for a number of important initiatives which were in some ways ahead of their time. His efforts to weaken the barriers between the different levels of the educational system culminated in the publication of an influential report, An Educational Service for the Whole Community. some tenets of which are still relevant to educational policy today.

Briault was a superb juggler of projects. He would still find time, in the thick of whatever problem he was tussling with, to visit a couple of play centres. And if, later that same day, he was missing from some prizegiving, it was often because he was a mile down the road attending a brass band concert given by a boys' school. Just before his retirement in 1976.

Briault was appointed CBE. Moving to Storrington in Sussex, he got involved with the education department at Sussex University, and accepted a post as Visiting Professor of Education. There, together with the research team, he published Falling Rolls in Secondary Schools (1980) and Primary School Management (1990). During his hectic years as a staff inspector, he had found time to co-author the much used Alevel textbook An Introduction to Advanced Geography (1957), which pioneered a new way of introducing concepts through specific examples. Geography in and out of Schools followed in 1960.

He and his wife, Marie, who survived him for just six days, celebrated their diamond wedding last summer. He is survived by two sons and a

THE EARL OF WARWICK

died on January 20 aged 61. He was born on May 15, 1934.

THE Earl of Warwick lived most of his later years as a tax exile in Paris and Spain. Very little was known of his Garboesque existence abroad. although he was thought to be immensely wealthy and to live a playboy lifestyle. But as Lord Brooke — the

title by which he was known in younger days — he had sparked off a lively debate among stately home owners in Britain for what many considered to be a cavalier attitude towards his inheritance. Brooke sold Warwick Castle, the finest medieval example of its kind in Britain, to Madame Tussaud's in 1978. But long before this, he had been selfing off magnificent paintings from the family collection.

The dispersal of Warwick Castle's contents began in 1968, after the 7th Earl of Warwick resettled the castle and its contents on his son. Because the 6th Earl's death duties had been paid in full and the family had not claimed exemption. Brooke could legally sell what he liked without having to meet large estate duty bills.

Brooke's own son had no

interest in running the castle after his father's death, but could not avoid paying heavy tax on any portion of the family fortune left in Britain. At the same time, Brooke feared that Britain would imminently fall under an extreme left-wing socialist government, with dire conse-quences for his own class. For a combination of these reasons, Brooke thought it advis-able to liquidate the family's assets in Britain, and to rebuild the family fortune abroad. Much amusement was had by the press at the expense of the family motto, Vix ea nostra voco (i scarcely call these things our own).

David Robin Francis Guy Greville was born in Warwick Castle, the son of the 7th Earl and his first wife. His father had been a romantic society figure, with dashing, dark good looks, and he had briefly lived in Hollywood with the intention of making a film career. His son - given the courtesy title of Lord Brooke, and forever after known as Brookie - followed his father to Eton. He inherited the 7th Earl's looks and charm, and his name regularly appeared in the gossip columns of the 1950s. Princess Margaret attended his 21st birthday party in 1955 at Warwick, when the entire castle was lit by flickering candles. Every artificial light from the battlements to

the moat was switched off. Brooke studied accounting in the City as a young man, and in 1956 married Sarah, daughter of the copper magnate Alfred Chester Beatty. They had a son and daughter, before the marriage was dis-solved in 1967. The following year, almost a decade after his father had made the castle over to him and left the country as a tax exile, Brooke moved into the castle. Up until that point the castle's visitors had had the run of the place almost to themselves.

The issue of visitors was one of the most reasonable argu-

SULTAN RAHI

ments against Brooke's subsements against Brooke's subsequent behaviour. Warwick Castle was a thriving tourist attraction in those days, equipped with ghost towers, grisly torture dungeons and medieval banqueting facilities. It more than paid for its own upkeep, and Brooke could not seriously claim poverty. But he was alarmed by the draconian tax measures of the mid-1970s, and by 1975, had decamped to Paris as a tax exile. He spent his days learning French, and in long lunches at the Travellers Club. Two years later, Brooke

faced an avalanche of criticism — much of it from distant branches of the Greville family - when it was discovered that he had been quietly breaking up his castle's fine art collection. A painting of Elizabeth I and four Canalettos were sold that year, and many more excellent works

Then, in 1978, Brooke sold the actual castle to Madame Tussaud's. The fine state rooms, which once entertained the Warwicks' houseguests, were now filled with waxwork models of Edwardian society

Brooke refused to discuss his actions, arguing that it was his property to do with as he liked: "It's a lot of bother looking after a castle, you know." Those who knew him well, however, said that he cared deeply about the family home. He inherited the title on his father's death in 1984.

He never remarried, though after his divorce his name was linked with some glamorous women. Among these, in the early 1970s, was the Nigerian model Mynah Bird. The earl is survived by his daughter Chariotte, whose husband, Andrew Fraser, son of Lord Lovat, died in 1994 after being gored by a buffalo in Tanzania: and by a son, Guy David Greville, the present Lord Brooke, who succeeds to the earldom.

CHARLES MADGE

children.

Charles Madge, poet and sociologist, died in Landon on January 17 aged 83. He was born in Johannesburg on October 10, 1912.

THOUGH modest -- sometimes to the point of self effacement — Charles Madge was a man of considerable talent. The variety of his accomplishment was reflected in the diversity of his life's and in 1995 his collected works work: first as a poet, then as a pioneer and leading practitioner in the field of social research, and thirdly as a Professor of Sociology who also carried out UN projects in the developing world.

Charles Henry Madge's first claim to public recognition was as one of a generation of left-leaning 1930s poets. A selection of his verse, chosen by W. B. Yeats, can be found alongside that of Auden, Spender, MacNeice and Day Lewis in the Oxford Book of Modern English Verse (1938). His style was influenced by his interest in science, by surrealism and by the traumatic impact on the left-wing Thirties generation of the Spanish Civil War.

Madge's poetic output grad-ually dwindled over the de-cades and little of what he wrote reached new generations of readers in the 1960s and 1970s. However, in the early 1990s he regained something of his former reputation when The Independent printed five of his prewar poems, were published under the title Of Love, Time and Places.

Madge left Cambridge without having completed his degree, and worked for a while as a reporter for the Daily Mirror. His discovery that what "ordinary" people really thought was different from that which the elite believed they thought, led him in 1937 to join in partnership with the anthropologist Tom Harrisson to set up an organisation called Mass Observation — to conduct one of the first major systematic inqui-ries into public opinion. Within two years this organisation had grown to embrace more



than 2.000 voluntary observers all over Britain. A uniquely rich store of data on the everyday lives of the population at that time was built up and a compilation of some of it published in 1939 in a book

Britain by Mass Observation. Madge next worked with Keynes at the National Institute for Social and Economic Research before moving on to Political and Economic Planning - an independent medi-

ANNOUNCEMENTS

cal and social research organ-isation. He then became director of the Pilot Press. These iobs were to form the basis from which he was to continue his output of papers on planning for the economic and social future of postwar Britain.

His next role was a fresh departure. He became social development officer for the embryonic Stevenage New Town. However, the bureaucratic aspects of this job were uncongenial and in 1950 he accepted a post as Professor of Sociology at Birmingham University. At that time, in the minds of

many conservative academics. sociology was something of a suspect discipline. Yet Madge soon established himself as a respected member of staff and was several times commissioned by the UN to work for its agencies in Asia and Africa. However, with the student disruptions of the 1960s, he began to feel an unease with the administrative aspects of his role and in 1970 he retired from university life.

Madge went on to publish research findings on art students' experiences and on inner city poverty. But perhaps his greatest achievement in later years was his crucial role in bringing to publication the work of his Cambridge friend, the documentary filmmaker Humphrey Jennings. Jennings had worked briefly with Madge at the start of Mass Observation, and had drawn on that experience when he went on to join the Crown Film Unit. He had, over the span of many years, been compiling a collection of texts, covering the period 1660-1886, which chronicled the reactions of contemporary imaginary writers and thinkers to the coming of the

machine. When Jennings died, Madge took on the task of editing this material. After long efforts to find a publisher and much re-editing of the texts, in collaboration with Jennings's daughter, this important work was published under the title Pandemonium in 1985.

Madge's final years were overshadowed by declining health, but he never lost his intellectual edge or his concern for the future of humanity. Though youthful ideals had been tempered by an awareness of how human imperfections often frustrate social progress, this awareness never discouraged him from proposing ways to im-prove on what he saw as avoidably squalid or harmful social and political developments.

Madge married in 1938 the poet Kathleen Raine. This marriage was dissolved. In 1942 he married the novelist Enes Pearn who died in 1976, and in 1979 he married for a third time Evelyn Brown. In 1984 she also died. He is survived by a son and daughter from his first marriage, and by a son and a daughter from his second.

ollowing announcement:

BATTLE IN THE NORTH SEA.

GERMAN RAIDERS FOILED.

The Secretary of the Admiralty makes the

Early this morning a British patrolling squadron of battle-cruisers and light cruisers under Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty, with a

destroyer flotilla under Commodore Tyrwhitt, sighted four German battle-cruisers, several

light cruisers, and a number of destroyers, steering westward, and apparently making

for the English coast.

The enemy made for home at high speed.

They were at once pursued, and at about 9.30 a.m. action was joined between the battle-

cruisers Lion, Tiger, Princess Royal, New Zealand, and Indominable on the one hand,

and Derfflinge, Seydlitz, Moltke, and Blücher

Sultan Rabi. Pakistani film actor, was shot dead near Gujranwalla on January 9 aged 57. He was born in 1938. IN A country largely bereft of heroes, Sultan Rahi was a

titan. Loved as much for his moustache as for his simplicity, the burly Rahi personified all that was popular and cheering in the Punjabi cinema of Pakistan. His contribution to Pakistani vernacular culture could be gauged in the outbreak of grief across the country when news of his death first broke. Buried in Lahore, the city of his adop-tion. Rahi attracted to his funeral the same milling crowds as had flocked earlier to watch him, alive, on screen.

The film star met his death in a manner that was never seen in any of the films in which he had starred: and there were approximately 700 of them. Travelling by road from Islamabad to Lahore, Rahi's car was stopped apparently by bandits, al-though the police seem not yet to be satisfied of this — and he was shot in the face by the assailants. He died within

minutes of the incident. On screen this would not have happened. Rahi would almost certainly have growled his trademark oaay — demotic Punjabi for "watch it" disarmed the pistol-packers. and beaten them to a chutney. He performed routines like that in film after film, and his macho or mardana style was adored by Pakistan's Punjabi

masses. Punjab's finest son was in fact born in Saharanour, now in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. In 1947, the year of India's partition, he migrated with his parents to Pakistan. The family settled in Karachi, in the area of Lalukhet, today the epicentre of that city's civil



The young Muhammad Sultan — he changed his name to Sultan Rahi only later had a cinematic passion that was quite unstoppable. After finishing school, he ventured to Lahore, the home of Pakistani cinema, in the hope of finding the employment of his choice. There, he spent 15 years doing odd jobs for filmwallahs and sometimes landing the part of an extra.

It was not until 1971, when he was 33, that he secured the sort of role for which he had come to Lahore, in Iqbal Kashmiri's Babul. A year later, Rahi took the country by storm: in a film called Bashira, he played a rural thug who in the end redeems himself, in a scene which ordinary Punjabis greatly enjoyed, by stabbing to death a brutal landlord.

If that film won for Rahi the following of the Punjabi peas-antry, Maula Jat (1979) secured their adoration forever. This film, perhaps the most important in the history of

Pakistani cinema — for it ensured that the Punjabi language eclipsed Urdu as the major cinematic medium broke every existing record at the box office. It ran in Lahore cinemas for five years. Rahi played the eponymous

character, who represents all that is good and honest his duels in the film with the Sindhi actor Mustafa Qureshi, who here played the evil "Nuri Nath", have passed into Pakistani folklore. One of Rahi's lines from the film was recited by many of those who mourned his death: "Maule nu maula na mare te maula nai marda".

Playing on the word "Maula", which, in addition to being the character's name, is also the Punjabi synonym for God, the line says that "Only God can kill Maula". It was this indestructibility that won him his legions, as well as his charitable work and lifelong devotion to Islam.

He is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

PERSONAL COLUMN LEGAL NOTICES WANTED FLIGHTS

DIRECTORY





You helped us in ASSOCIATION

legendant children by making a donation now and re To The Regal Air Force Senevalent Fund, PO Res 1940, Fortand, Glovenshambire, GL7 4843, Tet 0171-580 8343 Est.275.

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE BENEVOLENT FUND

A well-contested running fight ensued. Shortly after 1 o'clock Blücher, which had previously fallen out of the line, capsized and (By Our Naval Correspondent.) The news which has come from the North Sea. of the doings of the squadrons under Vice-Admiral Beatty and Commodore Tyrwhitt is most welcome and inspiriting. It will be some consolation to our seamen for the disappoint-

on the other.

ON THIS DAY

January 25, 1915 造型配到除

The German Navy had hoped to repeat its bombardment of the East Coast in December 1914. HMS Lion carried 13:5in guns which hammered the battlecruiser Blucher, finally sinking her.

ment they experienced on the last occasion that Germany sent out her battle-cruisers for a raid. The pitcher may go once too often to the well. Grand Admiral von Tirpitz cannot say he had not warning of what might happen if he decided to repeat the tactics of December 16 when he sent his cruisers to shell Scarborough and the Hartlepools.

On this occasion they appear to have been on their way to repeat the operation when they were so fortunately sighted by our patrolling squadrons. From the composition of the German force, which included battle-cruisers, light cruisers, and destroyers, it is evident that

the adventure was to be made on a large scale and possibly at a longer distance from their

After this affair the German newspapers and their naval critics will cease their gibes about the British Fleet being condemned to inactivity and afraid to leave its ports. One large armoured cruiser sunk and two battle-cruisers seriously damaged are fairly good evidence that our seamen are on the alert and are quite ready to give the enemy an opportunity for showing what they are made of whenever he cares to seize it.

Although we are not told exactly where the British patrolling squadrons met the Ger-mans, it may be assumed, since it was in the early morning, that the latter intended to make a descent upon the English coast, and therefore it was probably in the neighbourhood of Dogger Bank.

hood of Dogger Bank.

However much they were inclined to throw
their shells upon the English church-goers on
Sunday morning, they were in no fettle for a
fight, and, as Sir David Beatty says in his report, they turned at once and made for home at high speed.

From what we know of other battles at sea and the long ranges at which fire is opened, it may be that something near 10 miles separated the squadrons when this happened.

Previour. Meet the Sweeney. 1990s style. Thief Takers (ITV, 9.00pm).

Review: Matthew Bond is University Challenged Page 43

If Labour is serious about decen-

tralisation, it should allow parents

to decide periodically whether they

want comprehensive schools or

State of the President

The lines are drawn between two

strikingly different political vi-

sions. Americans seem destined for a fascinating battle Page 19

British supermarkets are baring

Rin Tin Tin's tin

.. Page 19

..Page 18

Natural selection

selection

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Major seeks elections for Ulster

■ John Major announced plans for early elections to a Northern Ireland assembly as a new road to peace after an international commission said the paramilitaries would never bow to his demand that they give up their guns before being admitted to all-party talks.

The move, which could lead to elections by May, was greeted angrily by nationalists. John Hume of the SDLP accused the Prime Minister of buying Unionist votes Pages 1, 8, 9

Blair crushes revolt over Harman

■ Harriet Harman was safely entrenched in her Shadow Cabinet job after a fighting Commons attack against the Conservatives and a striking display of Tony Blair's mastery over his party. The Labour leader crushed a party revolt against the Shadow Health SecretaryPages 1, 11

Tory hope

The Tories have climbed to their highest position in the polls for over two years even before Labour's rows over the Harriet Harman have had time to affect public opinion Page I

Sarah ward of court Sarah Cook, the 13-year-old who with her parents' blessing "married" a Turkish waiter she met on a family holiday, was made a ward of court Page I

Prince's opinion

The Prince of Wales, in a stinging criticism of plans to celebrate the millennium, says that the marking of the new century is in danger of becoming a giant but meaningless party with no spiritual significance

Princess's adviser

The Princess of Wales has appointed a businesswoman with a passion for amateur dramatics and cordon bleu cookery as her public relations adviser ___Page 2

Sex case teacher free A music teacher accused of giving sexual favours to under-age boys walked free after a judge accepted that although there was a clear case against her it would be unfair to proceed....Page 3

Warmer Antarctica

Ice sheets in Antarctica are disappearing as rising temperatures appear to confirm lears of global

Cathedral charge

The Roman Catholic Church was accused by English Heritage of deliberately letting St Mary's Old Cathedral, Middlesbrough, fall into ruin...

Wealth gap narrows

The gap between rich and poor, which widened during the Thatcherite 1980s, has remained almost constant during the economic slowdownPage 10 Santer pressure

Jacques Santer, the President of the European Commission, tried to silence the growing chorus of doubt over European monetary

...... Page 12

House 'forgery'

Kiko Nakahara, a British resident, has been arrested by French police and charged with forgery and breach of trust after allegedly buying 15 historic properties and stripping them of their Page 13

Firing squad

Tonight, John Albert Taylor, a convicted murderer and rapist, is due to be strapped to a chair in a converted warehouse beneath Utah's Wasatch Mountains and shot through the heart by five anonymous marksmen .. Page 14

Clinton triumph

Disgruntled Republicans accused President Clinton of purloining the best issues with a clever State Page 4 of the Union speech....... Page 15

'It's unreal' says nove! winner

The surprise winner of the Whitbread Book of the Year award, Kate Atkinson, won the support of eight of the nine judges for her first novel, Behind the Scenes at the Museum. Ms Atkinson, 44, has been turned from a struggling writer into a literary star by the £21,000 award. She said: "I didn't sleep. I kept thinking 'my goodness me'. It's a bit unreal"...... Page 3



Joanna Lumley cuddles Babe, a piglet named after the hit film, to launch a campaign to end exports of live animals in Europe

BUSINESS

Jobs: Short Brothers, the Belfast company, put 1,500 workers on three-months' notice of redundancy in case efforts to rescue Dutch plane-maker Fokker fail.... Page 23 Belling: A solicitor and a former

nuts and bolts salesman were found guilty of defrauding the illfated cooker maker and some of Europe's largest companies, in a £13 million operation.......Page 23

Returns: Bradford & Bingley, the

seventh largest building society. cut its mortgage rate to 7.24 as part of a scheme to return £50 million in improved rates...Page 23 Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 5.8 to

3754.2. Sterling rose from 82.8 to 82.9 after a rise from \$1.5105 to \$1.5147 and from DM2-2351 to ..Page 26

TIMES WEATHERCALL

East Micharica . Lincs & Humberade Dyled & Powys . . . Gwynodd & Chayd

N W England N & S Yorks & Dales

W & S Yorks & Dales
N E England
Cumbria & Lake District
S W Socialind
Edm S Files Lothian
Edm S Files Lothian
Bed Borders
E Central Scotland
Grampiam & E Frightands
N W Socialind
N related Socialind
N relat

AA ROADWATCH

HIGHEST & LOWEST

FLIGHT SAVERS

LONDON TO

PARIS

from £64 return

LONDON TO

MADRID

from £91 rolum.

LONDON TO

HAMBURG

sport tax and effering travel percen-

AirlK

77.73

新聞的新聞問題

SPORT

Rugby union: Paul Sampson, an 18year-old schoolboy from Yorkshire, was included in England's training squad for the international against Page 44

Tennis: Andre Agassi recovered from two sets down against Jim Courier to reach the men's singles semi-finals at the Australian Open. His opponent will be Michael Chang. . Page 44

Football: Manchester United and AC Milan have agreed to work together on mutual interests, such as a European super league and transfer links Page 40

Snooker: The decline of Alex Higgins seems irreversible after his elimination from the Embassy world championship and his petulant behaviour ...

Stars in combat: In an excellent

new thriller. Heat, Al Pacino and Robert De Niro are on opposite sides of the law. Also reviewed today: Harrison Ford in Sabrina; Whitney Houston in Waiting to Exhale; and the fine new Pedro Almodovar film, The Flower of my .. Page 31

Disharmony: In America even the most famous orchestras are in financial trouble......Page 33

Milmed abuse: At the London Mime Festival, the latest offering is Paper Walls, a gripping and intelligent response to abuse inside the family. ...Page 33

Pountney triumph: British director David Pountney has scored a triumph in Munich with his new production of AidaPage 33

her egg and produce successful

Past and present Peter Ackroyd

on Salvator Rosa: Roger Scruton on a man with quality: Andrew Roberts on Elizabeth. Pages 34, 35

pected to raise prices at the hotels it has just boughtPage 36

A long-term worry for Mr Blair is that if his education policy can unravel quite so rapidly the moment it is put to some sort of a test, what other ill-thought-out policies

- The Birmingham Post The Turkish media have a point when they say we are hypocritical. We issue the pill to 13-year-olds. Is our indignation about Miss Cook caused by this man being a Turk?

Play it again John: What makes America laugh - and why is John Cleese having to shoot a new end for Fierce Creatures? Page 17 First family: Susanna Agnelli, sister of Gianni, and Italy's first female Foreign Minister Page 17 Sperm wars: A woman who has an affair is more likely to conceive, and the littest sperm will fertilise

studies Coleridge, Bruce Boucher

Rooma cost more: Granada is ex-

COLDING. PAUL BEW Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams has been

spared the immediate embarrassment of having to accept that the present partition of the island has a democratic basis. To that extent, his leadership has been strengthened. But this is only a postponement of what is an inevitably evil KENNETH BAKER This week showed that the Labour

Party is still a snarling, jealous, vindictive pack of class-ridden

RACHEL CUSK It is hard to get the boorishness of beer out of the Book of the Year. If

THOUGH A

- THE PAPERS

are equally in jeopardy?

Whitbread knew anything about

bigots

books, it surely would not line them up like so many beauty queens in a judging process by necessity unfair and superficial.....Page 18 JOHN BRYANT National Lottery grants can now be paid directly to individual sports-

men and women but the real test

will be to make sure they go to the deserving Cinderellas and not the

Ugly Sisters already bloated with sponsorship.... Eric Briault, Education Officer of the ILEA; the 8th Earl of Warwick;

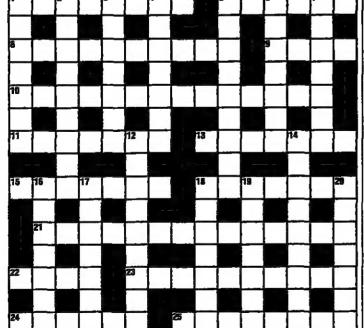
Sultan Rahi, Pakistani film actor:

Charles Madge, poet and

sociologist

Short-termism: Newbury bypass;

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,073



ACROSS

speaking (6).

ployee (7).

- I Put one's name on column in travel guide (8).
- 5 The conceit of Lord Peter when
- 8 Strengthen Spanish port in popular esteem (10).
- 9 Pit for collection of oils (4).
- 10 Childish game an editor might suggest (6-2-6). 11 Vain, yet floundering in inexperi-
- ence (7). 13 Porter turning cross with em-
- 15 Spanish gentleman covered up disturbance in gaol (7).
- 18 Refuse salesman university place for economics (7).
- 21 Uniting to annoy one engaged in making woollies (8-6).
- 22 Fingered cloth (4). 23 Unlocks with key - duplicate that's said to get you in (4.6).
 - Solution to Puzzle No 20,072

24 Chop-stick (6). 25 Printed letters found in the usual parts (8).

- 1 Freeze one with very loud gun is around (7).
- 2 Provided lecturer, initially, with
- generous form of tenure (9). 3 Feature a boxer recognizes, say (3-
- 4 Milling crowd on fringes of party getting drink (7). 5 We ask about love - individual is
- 6 Sort of dealings that can produce nothing short of derision (7).
- 7 A sailor enjoying recreation in sunny places (7).
- 12 Firm line taken in balancing act
- 14 Give me old-fashioned stuff, a sensational entertainment (9).
- 16 Literary people used to come here for a dip (3-4).
- 17 Strange attire a small number designed for the opera (7).
- 18 A temporary rolling for style of architecture (7).
- 20 Lead, for example, a resistance
- unit (7). Times Two Crossword, page 44

rom £108 return 19 Start in priory, and go back to be one Air LK on 0345 666777 or stact your travel agent. All major credit rands, accepted, Subject to availablely,

TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

FASHION Lace, and feathers. Iain R. Webb does the

couture shows EDUCATION Labour MP Denis MacShane on the

British schools that

lag behind in Europe

General: much of England and

Wales will have light snow flurnes today. The East Coast and hilly areas will be the most vulnerable places. The South West is likely to have a little rain or sleet. The brightest weather will

Scotland and Northern Ireland will

have a breezy day. Scattered snow showers across eastern districts, the

far north and on hills are likely to become frequent later. Western parts

☐ London, SE England, E Anglis

E England: mainly cloudy, some light snow flurries. Wind east to northeast,

occasionally strong. Cold in

are likely to have a brighter day.

be in northwestern parts.

wind. Max 1C (34F)

rounds of the Paris



- Evening Standard | data protection FORECAST Channel Isles, SW England: cloudy, some patchy rain or sleet. Wind east, fresh to strong. Cold in wind. Max 3C to 5C (371 to 41F). ☐ NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland: some bright spells, isolated snow showers. Wind east, fresh to strong.

Max 3C (37F). Li NE England, Borders, Edin-burgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Cen-tral Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: cloudy, some light snow showers, becoming more frequent later. Wind east, fresh, occasionally strong Cold in wind. Mex 2C (36F). Orkney, Shetland: snow showers, heavy at times. Wind southeast to east, strong, occasionally near gala Cold in wind, Max 4C (39F).

☐ Outlook: snow showers, becom-ing rain in South on Seturday; bright in North West.

Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, S Wales, N Wales, Central N England: mainly cloudy, some brighter spells; scattered snow fluries. Wind east to northeast, fresh.

Cold in wind. Max 1C (34F)

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

Sun Ran Nrs er 20 0.17 Mar 37 13 19 10 34 14 18 19 35 15 Man: F 43 c 36 du 41 c 001 023 0.02 052 0.20 0,30 028 004 002 029 0 15

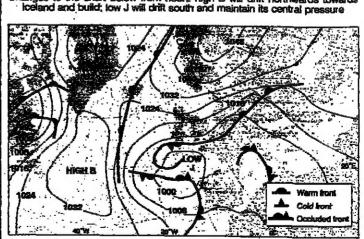
39 45 45 41 52 39 36 0.99 0 32 0 62 39 1 ABROAD.

15 90 (10 50) 28 82 (1 30) 28 0 32 (31 88) 5 30 0 23 73 0 Criptogn
Dublin
Dubrom
Faro
Florence
Frankfur
Funchal
Geneva
Geneva
Geneva
Geneva
Helsinki
Hong K
Innebrok
Innebrok
Istanbud
Jeddah
Jo burg
Korachi
L Angolis
L Palma
Lo Tquel
Lisbon
Locamo Rome S P/isco S Paulo Setzburg Setzburg Setzburg Setzburg Sing por Strassing Sydney Tangter Tal Anav Tenerite Tokyo Tomorte Turns Valoncia Vanc'ver Aluccion
Alercion
Alercion
Alercion
Alegera
Amstram
Athoria
Balmatin
Barnatin
Bernat
Bernat
Bernat
Bernat
Bernat
Bernat
Bernat
Bernat
Cernat
C -4 25 g

ROUGH

Sunny Chourdy . nizzle 🌦 Drizzle Overcasi Rain showers 🙅 Lightning Snow 13 (Celsius) Wind speed

from noon; high B will drift northwards towards



PM 523 440 10 47 2 43 10 352 227 3.01 9 355 1.62 2 37 8.45 AM 5.68 2.19 0.13 3.00 8.51 7.52 10.00 2.35 1.52 9.44 7.08 2.36

Crown copyright reserved. All tyres GMT. Heights in matter

حكذامن الأصل

10

177427

-C /

- 127

Fat.

4....

- 1957

The spring

1.

. . .

Trees.

100 4 18 5 · + > = .

7212

1. 1. 75 176

Again to

20